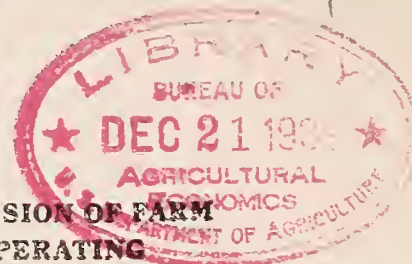


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# FARM POPULATION and RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES



A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM  
POPULATION AND RURAL WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Rural sociology extension is a relatively new and, in some areas, untried field of extension work. From time to time in the past, rural sociology extension workers have met and attempted to formulate points of agreement and disagreement in their respective work programs and to discuss the relationships of rural sociology as a field for teaching and research and for extension as well. The workers in the several States have found these conferences of great benefit in developing their own programs.

Representatives present at a conference held in Lexington, Kentucky, just preceding the meetings of the American Country Life Association in November 1938, felt that the time had arrived for a more comprehensive report on the field and objectives of rural sociology extension. Therefore, the chairman of that meeting, Carl C. Taylor, appointed a special committee to deal with this subject and to bring in a report to serve as a basis for further discussion. On the committee were the following: H. W. Beers, Kentucky, chairman; Mary Eva Duthie, New York; B. L. Hummel, Virginia; W. H. Stacy, Iowa; A. F. Wileden, Wisconsin; and H. W. Hochbaum and Carl C. Taylor of the United States Department of Agriculture, acting as advisory members.

Another report on this subject has been prepared by the Committee on Extension of the Rural Sociological Society as a part of its regular work. The members of this committee, Mary Eva Duthie, chairman, A. F. Wileden, and W. H. Stacy, also served on the larger committee.

To these two reports, which supplement each other, the Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare devotes this issue of its quarterly publication. It is hoped that making them available, not only to persons who will be present at the conference late in December but also to a wider circle of readers, will further clarify the field and objectives of rural sociology extension.



## THE FIELD AND OBJECTIVES OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY EXTENSION

### Introduction

Rural sociology first made direct contributions to cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics in Wisconsin, in 1911. Since then there has been a gradual increase in the number of States that have added extension projects in this field, until at the close of 1939 more than 30 workers were so employed.

Since rural sociology deals with the human elements in agricultural situations its relationships are involved and its methods are variable. But in the realm of objectives and activities a very definite consensus of opinion has been forming. It was to study the situation and "prepare a well considered statement concerning the field and objectives of extension work in rural sociology" that a committee was appointed in November 1938 by Dwight Sanderson, President of the Rural Sociological Society. This committee now offers this statement or report in the hope that it will be received as a progress report of extension sociologists and that it will serve to clarify further the objectives of this type of work.

### A Review of Early Programs and Aims

#### First Developments

Since its beginning in 1911, rural sociology extension has been gradually growing in usefulness and the recognition accorded it has been growing. Steadily its objectives have been clarified and brought close to those of other programs. Frequently, as State workers in this field have met to exchange experiences, to study aims, and to discuss policies with colleagues in teaching, research, and administrative work, there have been attempts to formulate a clear and practical statement of the objectives of rural sociology extension. As current aims are best understood when stages in growth are noted, a review of earlier programs and expressions of purpose is included with this report.

Significant group statements of objectives were prepared in or as a result of meetings of extension sociologists at (1) Cleveland, Ohio, December 26-27, 1930; (2) Oglebay Park, West Va., August 22-23, 1931; (3) Oglebay Park, West Va., October 15, 1932; (4) Washington, D. C., June, 1934; (5) Lafayette, Ind., March 19-20, 1936; (6) Washington, D. C., December 31, 1937-January 1, 1938, (7) Lexington, Kentucky, October 31-November 1, 1938; and (8) State College, Pa., August 29, 1939.

## National Statement of Objectives

The first national group formulation of objectives was at Cleveland, Ohio, December 26-27, 1930. Twelve States then had programs known as rural sociology extension. This conference, called by agreement between the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy of the Land Grant College Association and the Federal Extension Service, brought representation from 11 States and the United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. C. B. Smith, then in charge of cooperative extension work in the United States Department of Agriculture, emphasized at the outset his hope that this conference would not adjourn "without making a statement (1) as to the definite things in rural sociology that extension specialists in that field propose to extend, and (2) the methods of procedure to be used."

At this first national conference the name "rural sociology extension" was adopted officially, and a statement of objectives was prepared in conformity with the wording and intent of the Smith-Lever Law.

"The general objectives of Agricultural Extension have been stated as .....diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage the application of the same. More adequate incomes, the cooperative spirit, the wise use of leisure time, and higher standards of life are the results to be desired.

"Rural sociology extension contributes to the attainment of these general objectives by developing with rural people the science and art of living and of working in groups, through assisting them in:

1. Analyzing their larger community situations
2. Thinking through the principles underlying their group relationships
3. Discovering needed adjustments
4. Planning for desired improvements
5. Developing practical methods of procedure
6. Applying those methods

"This development is concerned with individual adjustments and with such group adjustments as:

1. The family group in its inner and outer relationships
2. Voluntary interest group relationships
3. Cooperative group relationships (e.g., membership morale)
4. Town and country relations
5. Local governmental groups in relation to tax-supported institutions (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, public welfare, etc.)
6. The individual and the group in relation to their cultural environment



"The general objective is to stimulate specific activities contributing to the development of human values and rural talent, and to assist rural people in developing and coordinating their various groups and institutions in relation to their priority and emphasis in community building."

### Objectives in the Several States

At this first conference a committee was appointed to get from the several State extension sociologists expressions of their objectives, activities, methods, and some results. Statements were collected from 14 States during 1931 and 1932. They revealed a definite tendency toward basic agreement with the statement prepared at Cleveland. In a few States, it had been adopted almost word for word. Representative variations among the States are indicated in the following quotations.

#### Illinois (1932)

"(1) To help organize local groups of farm people to function more effectively; (2) to help farm people in every rural community become organized; (3) to encourage every farm family (farm labor included and such others as have a dominant interest in farming) to become active members; (4) to assist in making resources of county, state, and national organizations and service agencies available to farm people; (5) to work for the coordination of organized groups in rural communities (farm, church, school, commercial, public welfare, etc.); and (6) help farm people become informed, efficient, group minded and self determining - realizing the most from their own individual and group resources."

#### Iowa (1932)

"(1) Interpret the results of rural life studies thru press articles, radio statements, correspondence, conferences with administrative leaders and other meetings; (2) Help to coordinate the forces of institutions and organizations operating in rural communities - church conferences and programs, school calendars, fair programs, library services, state committees, state and national country life conferences; (3) Aid the local units of farm organizations to function efficiently and effectively - program service, leaders conferences, goals and demonstrations; (4) Guide and stimulate the development of recreation and such avocational activities as will directly contribute the better living and morale - drama, music, folk games, social games, joy in reading; (5) Contribute to the socializing, inspirational phases of the junior program with the direct aim of helping to set higher living standards and prepare leadership for the tasks involved in attaining those standards - social parties, music and drama, special 'literary society' type of program for young men and young women."

#### Missouri (1932)

"To apply the principles and practices upon which effective community locality groups and special interest recreational groups must be founded and maintained if they are to function at their

best, and to aid unadjusted members of rural communities. This is being done by recognizing that: (1) Rural life involves both the maintenance of the rural community in its normal community life activities, and assisting the less fortunate, unadjusted rural people through organized County Departments of Public Welfare; (2) that production and marketing are essential means to an end, a satisfying community and family life; (3) that community activities functioning through community organizations are the logical Agricultural Extension Service continuation of Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work;

"Specific activities which form immediate objectives of this project include plans; (1) to stimulate and to guide the community activities of rural people who are working together on an organized community-wide basis; (2) to develop the talent and abilities of rural men and women, and rural boys and girls so as to provide wholesome amusement by means of local community programs and parties; (3) to help rural men and women to be dependable local leaders of Extension Service activities, and efficient officers in their community organization; (4) to assist in the promotion, organization, and development of County Public Welfare Units and Rural Social Welfare Organizations, or local Red Cross units that sponsor social welfare and family case work."

#### New York (1932)

"To help rural people in enriching rural life; to train and assist rural leaders; and to develop a better organization and integration of social and economic agencies in rural communities."

#### Ohio (1931)

"Immediate objectives are (1) to train recreation leaders in rural dramatics and game leadership. It is hoped that through cooperation in play the lives of rural people may be enriched, and also that because of this experience they may be able to cooperate to a greater extent in other fields; (2) to assist extension workers with organization and relationships problems, especially those problems pertaining to the organization of the extension program on a county or community basis; (3) to assist groups in building a more efficient and satisfactory life through the working out of satisfactory forms of community organizations; (4) to render service to organizations and groups in helping them to analyze their problems and make improvement. Such services as the provision of Grange Lecturers' Schools, help to Farm Bureaus, Parent-teachers' Associations, etc., would be included; (5) to furnish all groups holding meetings some assistance along the line of helps for improving programs of meetings; (6) to assist extension agents in making rural life surveys so that they may have more background material than economic information only in planning the extension program."



Pennsylvania (1931)

"Rural sociology, as a division of the extension program, seeks to assist agriculture and rural life through specific activities, but also, because it deals with the human element, its principles are woven through the entire fabric of extension teaching. This branch of the service will have a function then in the whole process of building a program with rural people and of operating the organization to carry it out successfully."

Virginia (1931)

"A new type of community seems essential to rural progress. It is assumed in our program here that such communities can be deliberately planned and built by rural people through years of consistent, purposeful effort....

"Good schools and churches, improved roads, and trade facilities, cooperation in production and marketing, membership organizations, intelligent health and public welfare programs, higher standards of home life, constructive programs of recreation, dramatics, and music; all these may be gained in large measure by the development of adequate rural communities. The efficient organization of these local communities also furnished a medium through which outside agencies can render valuable services to people whom they could not otherwise reach. Through the cooperation of several communities still other advantages such as hospital and library service, fire protection, and regional planning are made possible.

"Furthermore, the development of these communities with their well balanced programs of socialization and adult education, with their developed leadership, awakened citizens, and broadened views on public questions, makes it possible for rural people to formulate and express their views more effectively..."

Wisconsin (1931)

"Some of these more immediate goals being set in Wisconsin, which are not mutually exclusive, are the following; (1) The encouragement of group efficiency which, like individual efficiency, makes possible a greater return per unit of time and energy invested; (2) The elimination of wasteful competition between individuals and between groups, which may result from lack of organization, on the other hand, or overorganization on the other; (3) The development of a cooperative spirit or group morale which is necessary for the success of all cooperative enterprises; (4) Providing an adequate recreation program in an attempt to encourage a wise use of leisure time. This is of special importance as the amount of time for leisure increases; (5) The setting up of high standards of living commensurate with American ideals, which in turn become stimuli to increased effort and productivity on the part of individuals and groups; (6) The development of the ability to make appraisals or choices in terms of ultimate human or social values;



(7) The development of a socialized personality through opportunity for self-expression, and of higher cultural standards and ideals in home and country through encouragement of the cultural arts; (8) To help attain a more adequate income without which, under our present economic system many physical things are not available."

#### Outlining of the Field

The Cleveland Conference stimulated interest in further agreement and clarification. A conference held 8 months later (August, 1931) at Oglebay Park, West Virginia was more concerned with an outlining of the field and agreement upon content. This conference considered recreation and the rural sociology program, research and the extension sociology program, rural organization and the extension sociology program, and the question of a philosophy for rural life. Workers from 13 States and three representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture were present. Much attention was given to the meaning of "sociological." Contributions in the "cultural arts" field were critically reviewed. A committee report presented the following "three things which are still in need of doing:

- (a) Restatement of methods, objectives, plans and results in rural sociology extension work.
- (b) New statements in different vein, of services available and plans of procedure.
- (c) A drawing together of materials available - research adaptable and experiences and principles which are of greatest significance in rural sociology extension."

This conference released no new group presentation of objectives nor statement of the field.

Another meeting at Oglebay Park, in connection with the annual meeting of the American Country Life Association in October, 1932, brought further discussion among extension rural sociologists from seven States, together with several national leaders. Consideration was given again to the rural cultural arts program. Emphasis was placed upon a "dual function" of rural sociology extension, a statement in the summary report being that "it is making a contribution to the structural organization of rural communities and it is also guiding and aiding...the social and cultural activities ... of rural groups."

Growing concern for the problems of older rural youth brought extension rural sociologists to Washington in June, 1934, in connection with the National 4-H Club Leaders Conference. This was the first joint national meeting of rural sociology specialists with other workers in extension. This conference was significant in that rural sociologists agreed that the field of rural youth extension should not be set aside as a specialty for rural sociologists, but that the latter should play the role of consultants and of more general group specialists.

## The 1936 Survey of Programs

On the suggestion of Dr. C. J. Galpin, information was secured in 1936 from each State extension director and extension rural sociologist about the nature and scope of their existing extension rural sociology program. <sup>1/</sup> "Work on the content of the program for rural organizations" and "emphasis on the 'program approach'" were found to be the most common characteristics. These general statements comprehended work in drama, social recreation, music, group discussion, and the arts and crafts. Other significant classifications, however, were "work with rural organizations and organizational relationships" and "studies of local groups and of local situations. These included group conferences and group planning, leadership training, and plans for group and community organizations. It was inferred from this analysis that the field of the extension rural sociologist was "becoming one of appraising groups and institutions in terms of their adequacy in meeting the needs of a situation, and in counseling with the leaders and citizens in terms of future plans and needed adjustments."

### Evaluation of Accomplishments

A new interest began to appear about this time. Desire for evaluation of various programs was expressed at the meeting of the American Sociological Society held in December 1935 and again in 1936 at two regional conferences for rural sociology extension workers. At Boston the discussion included a critical examination of extension work in rural sociology and in various phases of recreation, especially in relation to objectives. <sup>2/</sup> The Central States conference at Lafayette, Indiana, in March, likewise concentrated upon the definition of the field and the appraisal of the programs. A summary of these conferences <sup>3/</sup> suggested that rural sociology extension could, through a "sociological information service," become comparable to "Outlook" and the economic information service in the field of farm economic extension work. This was covered in the following words: "sociological service....supplied through conference and committee work....interpretations of rural life studies....emphasizing techniques bearing upon group adjustment."

At Lafayette a committee was appointed "to consider criteria for measuring results of rural sociology extension work." Realizing that measurement could occur only in relation to stated objectives, the committee felt a need for reformulated statements of the rural sociology extension field and its objectives.

### A Three-Point Goal Established

"What does Rural Sociology have to offer rural people in the way of

<sup>1/</sup> This is reported in the article by Wiledon, A. F., Rural Sociology Extension in the Agricultural Colleges, Journal of Rural Sociology, Vol. 4, No. 1, March, 1939.

<sup>2/</sup> These mimeograph papers are available: What Should be the Objectives of Extension Rural Sociology, by T. B. Manny; An Appraisal of Extension Work in Rural Sociology, by Bruce L. Melvin; An Appraisal of the Program in Recreation, by C. B. Smith.

<sup>3/</sup> Published in Extension Service Review, August 1936.



education and what does it offer to agricultural leaders as a technique of planning and promoting rural life improvement?" This challenge was considered when 40 sociologists in extension, teaching and research work met at the call of Director Warburton in Washington, December 31, 1937, and January 1, 1938. The field of rural sociology extension was defined in these meetings as:

- a. "Helping communities help themselves. It is the function of the Extension Rural Sociologist to study the existing rural community organizations and institutions and to help the community give consideration to the community services which are most needed and which will give the largest returns in human satisfaction. A part of this work consists of making recommendations for better serving the needs of the community, but primarily he helps people to plan to help themselves with his guidance. In this he is primarily concerned with the community as a whole, and he uses sociological principles to advise and help communities with organization problems and to help groups function more effectively.  
  
"One important aspect of helping communities to help themselves lies in the field of local leadership. It is part of his job to help find, develop, and encourage the use of local leadership. Furthermore, he should encourage local organizations to make use of and develop local talent in such fields of folk culture as art, music, and drama. He should also study the community's needs and ways of meeting them in such fields as health, education, church, and church organization.
- b. "Integrating the work in the community. It is the business of the Extension Sociologist to be concerned with problem of integrating the work of community organization in their separate activities aimed toward making the community a better place in which to live. Therefore, he constantly stresses the needs of the whole community, and attempts to make sure that its interests are kept in the foreground. It is his concern that in the organization of community services no segment of the community shall be omitted or overlooked, particularly that underprivileged or disadvantaged groups in the community are given due consideration.
- c. "A point of view. In all of his work in the local communities the Extension Sociologist must help to develop an appreciation of human values and a sound appraisal of all that contributes to more satisfying living conditions. In addition it is important that he constantly reemphasize the view of the community as a whole. Not only is it necessary for him constantly to emphasize this in his own dealings with the local community, but he has the same obligations toward other local Extension workers. Through direct help and through indirect guidance he should

assist other specialists to acquire a sociological point of view; and by demonstration and discussion help county agents to use sound sociological methods and to develop their knowledge of and skill in group techniques."

The increase in the number of States with rural sociology extension programs and the presence of an increased number of workers in the field led to a new need for national discussion of field and objectives. Accordingly, a national conference of extension rural sociologists was approved by the Policy Committee of the Land Grant College Association in July 1938.

#### The Lexington Conference

This conference occurred in Lexington, Kentucky, October 31 and November 1, 1938, just preceding the meetings of the American Country Life Association. Forty-two representatives from 14 States and the United States Department of Agriculture attended. An attempt was made to formulate objectives which would serve as a foundation for work, to consider relationships of rural sociology extension with other extension activities, and to review methods of conducting various programs. Discussion of objectives yielded such statements as the following: "the needs of the people are our concern;" "our general objective is making rural family living effective;" "our problem is to elevate the level of living of rural people;" and "our job is to develop rural leaders."

Special attention was given to relationships of rural sociology extension to emergency agricultural programs and to planning for these programs. Extension administrators and sociologists both emphasized the importance of "humanizing" the program, "beginning with the farm family and including the interests of all families in a well rounded community program." It was further stated: "One must begin with the people where they are and then, through discussion and an analysis of their problems, take them where they ought to be ... There can be no essential planning without bringing the people along too."

Reports indicated that the contributions of rural sociology extension were being more clearly recognized by other rural workers, such as extension administrators, home demonstration agent leaders, land use planners, youth program leaders, cultural arts directors, church leaders, officers of farmers' organizations, and those in charge of relief programs.

The Lexington conference suggested to the president of the Rural Sociological Society that he charter a special committee of the society with the task of giving further concentrated attention to the field and objectives of rural sociology extension, preparing a "well considered statement," comparable to recent committee reports on rural sociology research <sup>4/</sup> and resilient instruction. <sup>5/</sup> The efforts of the committee subsequently named are embodied in this report.

<sup>4/</sup> The Field of Rural Sociology Research, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., October 1938 (mimeographed).

<sup>5/</sup> Gee, Wilson, et al., Committee report presented at the 1938 annual meeting, Rural Sociological Society.



### Common Denominators

In quick summary, it is observed that each group statement of objectives could be divided into several parts and reassembled in four divisions. In each statement there has been reference to: (1) direct educational work in disseminating sociological findings, (2) organizational and technical aid, (3) consultation service reaching many agencies and programs of action, and (4) the inspirational teaching of philosophies and values.

In essence, the successive statements of aims and objectives have been similar. There has been this four-strand thread of continuity. Consensus of opinion seems to have been emerging with respect to the possible parts of the job; differences have concerned mostly the relative emphasis given or the arrangement of parts.

In beginning its work, therefore, this committee assumed its general task to be that of bringing together the previous statements concerning field and objectives and presenting them in terms of existing agreement among persons with an interest in rural sociology extension objectives. The committee was interested particularly in discovering the extent to which agreement or disagreement about objectives actually exists.

### The Current Survey

In determining present consensus at least three procedures were possible. Workers might be asked to volunteer personal formulations of objectives, or they could be asked to register acceptance or disapproval of stated formulations of objectives, or they might be asked to indicate, for a list of specific possible activities, the items they considered to be functions of rural sociology extension. It was expected that the first procedure would yield an insufficient number of expressions. The second procedure was tested within the committee and was discarded because the formulation of objectives was found to be less meaningful than lists of activities. The third procedure was adopted. The basis of the questionnaire was a list of 86 activity items gleaned from annual reports, plans of work, reports of discussions among rural sociology extension workers, and all material procurable on the nature of rural sociology extension programs.<sup>6/</sup> The list was intended to include activities of the earliest workers, activities currently a part of programs in the various States, and other activities recently proposed by friends in other extension fields as new responsibilities for rural sociology extension. It was not intended that the questionnaire items be either classified or mutually exclusive.

Several possible disadvantages of this procedure were first considered. Would a long questionnaire sent to extension administrators and supervisors and to rural sociologists in extension, teaching, and research be well received? Would it be feared that this committee intended to propose a national rural sociology extension program, based on only an

<sup>6/</sup> Space limitations prohibit reproduction of the questionnaire.



"operational" definition, present activities, whether good or bad? Would it be feared that the committee might discover varying concepts within the same department or institution? Would responses to our list of activities be meaningless, because each response involved a different "time and place situation?" After examining each of these possible deterrents, the committee decided to proceed with the distribution of its opinionnaire.

Of the 443 schedules sent, 137 schedules (a 30-percent return) were tabulated.

Mailing list	Schedules tabulated
Total	137 <u>1</u> /
Extension administrators and supervisors (all directors and State leaders) <u>2</u> /	54
All rural sociologists in Land Grant College research and/or resident instruction	33
All extension specialists in rural sociology (full- or part-time) <u>2</u> /	26
Other rural sociologists <u>3</u> /	24

1/ Fifteen additional schedules arrived too late for tabulation. The questionnaire was mailed August 1. The percentage of returns would undoubtedly have been larger had not distribution occurred during the height of vacation period. Replies came from all States except Delaware, California, Idaho, Maine, Nevada, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Utah.

2/ From list of workers in Land Grant Colleges.

3/ From membership list of the American Sociological Society. Members specifying interest in rural sociology.

The committee considers this return, for such a bulky questionnaire distributed in an off-season, to indicate a widespread interest in the field of extension rural sociology. The resultant tabulation is not a rigid operational definition; it is merely an index of consensus. It is not an imposition of the judgments of committee members; it is a record of the opinions of 137 professionally interested persons. The extent of consensus indicates that even though individual respondents undoubtedly thought in terms of specific time and place situations, they tended to concur on most activity items.

The analysis of this study is offered by the committee as its contribution to the continuing series of group efforts to clarify objectives for workers in rural sociology extension.

### A Current Restatement of Field and Objectives

Any statement of objectives has to be in general terms. General objectives can take concrete or specific form only with reference to needs at a given time and place. It is perhaps for this reason that any general statement is unsatisfactory to many persons who yearn for a definition that has "all the answers." Such a definition cannot be formulated. The report of the standing committee does, however, supplement the discussion of general objectives with lists of rural sociology extension activities.<sup>7/</sup>

It is important to note that the statements emerging from previous conference and committee action (see preceding pages of this report) flow together in a summary of opinions reported to the present committee in response to its questionnaire on the field and objectives of rural sociology extension.

In summary, rural sociology extension is concerned with the analysis of local rural social situations, interpretation of these situations by reference to other events and previous experiences, and the giving of counsel, based on these interpretations, about rural social developments. When need be, it stimulates and directs ideas and activities that help to build a philosophy of an abundant rural life, and it helps the people of rural communities to develop and to coordinate their several groups and institutions.

This summary, in every-day language, is a statement of the rural sociology extension field and objectives, as derived from a classified collection of the more specific questionnaire answers. No definitions were submitted with the questionnaire. "Social trends," "leader," "community," "self-study," "diagnosis," "social meaning," "social objectives," and "rural life philosophy," therefore, appear in the summary as they appeared on the questionnaire, without definition and subject to the varying interpretations of individual readers. These words had meanings for the workers who were consulted through the questionnaire, and it may be assumed that they will have similar meanings for the readers of this report.

In terms of the actual questionnaire language, rural sociology extension is concerned first with interpreting social trends to community leaders and helping communities with self-study and diagnosis. It is concerned next with helping to interpret the social meaning of other subject matter and of influencing the social objectives of other workers, all within the framework of a rural-life philosophy.

This has not been indicated by any one person, but it is a condensation of the expressions received from 137 extension administrators, extension supervisors, and rural sociologists. The statement must not be taken to imply complete agreement, for there is no such expression that would meet uniform acceptance. It does, however, represent a present central tendency in the thinking of the group consulted. It represents a conception of the objectives of rural sociology extension that is now widely held, and its relationship to previous formulations is readily seen.

<sup>7/</sup> See report of the Committee on Extension, beginning on page 22.



# What is the Core of Rural Sociology Extension?

Activities designated as core activities ranked by frequency of choice

(Number of choice is indicated)

Total group (96 schedules)	Administrators and supervisors (38 schedules)	Rural sociologists in research and/or resident instruction (22 schedules)	Full- or part-time workers in rural sociology extension (21 schedules)
Interpret social trends to community leaders (48)	Teach a rural philosophy (21)	Interpret social trends to community leaders (15)	Interpret social trends to community leaders (10)
Teach a rural philosophy (41)	Interpret social meaning of other subject matter (17)	Interpret social meaning of other subject matter (10)	Teach local people to analyze problems (10)
Help communities make self- surveys (38)	Interpret social trends to community leaders (16)	Diagnose community problems (9)	Teach a rural philosophy (10)
Interpret social meaning of other subject matter (38)	Teach local people to analyze problems (15)	Teach community planning methods (9)	Teach leadership principles (10)
Diagnose community prob- lems (37)	Influence social objectives of other extension workers (14)	Teach leadership principles (9)	Help communities make self- surveys (9)
Teach local people to analyze problems (36)	Help communities make self- surveys (13)	Help communities make self- surveys (8)	Influence social objectives of other extension workers (8)
Influence social objec- tives of other extension workers (33)	Diagnose community problems (13)	Conduct organization "prob- lem clinics" (8)	Diagnose community problems (7)
		Humanize the Extension pro- gram (8)	

The extension administrators and supervisors and the rural sociologists consulted in preparation of this report indicated whether or not they thought rural sociology extension should lead or help with each activity listed on the questionnaire; 70 percent (96) of them selected also those activities which they thought to be at the "core" or "heart" of rural sociology extension.

In the designation of "core" activities, there was a wide range of opinion. However, three activities were placed uniformly at the center of the job. They are: "interpret social trends to community leaders," "help communities make self surveys," and "diagnose community problems." The three statements are so similar in meaning that they outline a basic community function in rural sociology extension as it is now generally conceived.

To these three tasks four more were linked. Administrators gave as frequent choice "teach a rural philosophy." Only the rural sociologists in research and resident instruction failed to give central status to this activity. Administrators gave high rank also to "interpret social meaning of other subject matter." In apparent dissent, extension sociologists omitted this task from their selection of core responsibilities. All sub-groups except rural sociologists in research and resident teaching selected "teach local people to analyze problems," another statement related clearly to the aforementioned community function. Finally, all replies except those from rural sociologists in research and teaching considered "influence social objectives of other extension workers" to be a "core" item.

It will be noted that researchers and teachers agreed with the total group about the inclusion of four "core" items, but replaced the other three with "teach community planning methods," "conduct organization problem-clinics," "humanize the extension program," and "teach leadership principles." The last item was included also by extension sociologists.

Comparison of these ideas about the function of rural sociology extension with previous statements of objectives, outlined earlier in this report, reveals a continuity of thinking that now has moved toward consensus, shared rather generally by administrators and sociologists. The differences that remain seem to concern supplementary interpretations rather than fundamental conceptions of the central field.

#### Comments That Illustrate the Range of Opinion

The extent of agreement among workers is indicated by regular tabulation of check marks in respective schedule columns, analyzed in the body of this report. The extent and types of diversity, however, are best revealed in the comments set down to qualify schedule entries. A collection of representative comments is included in this report in order that persons who are especially interested may study the kinds of supplementary statement on the schedules.



### Administrative and Supervisory (Adult)

"Sociologists in Extension must not forget that many extension workers have had some training in sociology and for years before Rural Sociologists were added to the extension staff, much thought was given to social trends, social values, etc. It would be well for sociologists to capitalize on this...To be most helpful Rural Sociologists should not specialize in one field - i.e., recreation...Since many Rural Sociologists in Extension are men it would be well to have a home economist working closely with the sociologist."

"Too much work directly with organizing the people implied. Extension Rural Sociologists need to 'work on and with' the County Extension Agents and other staff members and through the County Extension Agents with the people in the communities."

"It would appear that rural sociology extension work can best meet the needs of rural and urban people by helping them to solve local problems particularly as they relate to recreation, music, drama, games, playgrounds, and other social activities for better living and more contentment on the farm."

"It has been stimulating to check these questions and I am convinced that the Extension Rural Sociologist should be the coordinator in the program."

"Rural Sociology, like Agricultural engineering, Farm Management, and Entomology, should cut across all extension fields of work and act as a service division to each field. Rural Sociology Extension is not a separate definite field as is Horticulture, Forestry, Agronomy, etc., but should be a part of the approach and methods used in all Extension work."

"Agree on major aims, viz. health, income, etc., study actual problems of social and economic situations."

"It appears to me one of the crying needs among farm people is to develop in their minds a real appreciation of what they have."

### Supervisors (4-H and Young Adult)

"It seems to me that Rural Sociology Extension should consult with, and guide plans and programs of all extension departments toward one major objective - a more satisfying rural life."

"I believe that Rural Sociology has something to contribute to all extension activity if other specialists are approached in the right way. As indicated on my questionnaire, I feel RSE should take the lead only in the field of explanation of principles of sociology. I would suggest that the RSE specialist should be careful not to



work too far away from the subject matter people in extension. A program can be planned without them, but will be more helpful if there is full cooperation."

"The opportunity of the Rural Sociologist lies in serving as a specialist, and thus as an adviser, to the Extension agents and leaders in all phases of Rural Sociology including recreation, drama, music, and all phases having to do with the cultural and social phases of rural life."

"The sociologists can help us by supplying us with material that can be given to rural youth, to enable them to adjust themselves and their communities to the rapid changes that are taking place in the country. The main objectives could be the assembling and presenting of such needed material. Of course, there must be constant study of local or State conditions."

Rural Sociologists (Land Grant Colleges)  
in Teaching and Research

"Objectives of the Extension Sociologists: to assist rural communities in analyzing their needs and problems; to determine resources and facilities available in meeting and solving these needs and problems; and finally to stimulate and assist in coordinating such inter-group action as may be necessary in working toward a solution of these problems. I feel that this latter point is especially important. Far too many studies have been made in which certain pathological conditions already more or less self-evident have been pointed out, and then no program of action has been instituted or even suggested to assist local people in working out a solution to their problem."

"Basically RSE should seek to interpret the findings of rural sociology research students and sociological principles in the light of State, county, and community conditions... Particularly should it work through local community organizations to extend its scope of influence, but it should foster new community organizations only where there is an apparent lack of them."

"I see a real need for narrowing the field of Rural Sociology Extension to meeting the rural needs in recreation. That field is sufficiently broad already. You can't spread your efforts over family counseling, soil conservation, fire protection, church mergers, social welfare, county health, labor disputes, school consolidation, and reorganizing local government without losing your effectiveness."

"Rural Sociology Extension should sell the 'human side of agriculture' (the philosophy of rural life) to all agencies working with rural people and take active participation in leading and assisting these agencies in formulating programs for making effective in rural civilization the practice of 'living the good life.'"

"The major purposes, it seems to me, center around (1) the various processes in community life - organization, conflict - morale and planning and (2) the interpretation of the social point of view to extension workers and community leaders."

"RSE should share equally with other extension fields in many of these activities, but many activities will not be promoted until some social-minded Sociologist takes the lead."

"The part which RSE must play is three-fold. First, is the task within the Extension staff itself. Second, at present the major task is, perhaps, to awaken the people to and equip them for their part in the new program - i.e., the intelligent formulation and solution of their problems. This means helping them better understand their community, their world. Here the fields of adult education, group discussion, community organization, and organization program aids overlap. Third, certain more specific projects, needed to implement the total program, may have to be carried on or at least started by RSE. Music, drama, crafts, recreation, etc. when given to the people as skills have no special reason for being RSE tutelage. Perhaps RSE should plan, however, to be freed eventually of such projects."

"Personally, I should like to see greater cooperation of Rural Sociology Extension and Family Life Departments in colleges of Home Economics. The culture in which we live is a very important determinant in values stressed in family life...."

"The field of RSE should not be one of limitations. Our objectives ought to be expressed in two ways: (1) In terms of unchanging values, that is, in a long-time philosophy; (2) In terms of our present state of development, society, and agriculture, that is, a short-time philosophy which can take into account the changing conditions of the moment. Here might be enumerated a long list of subjects which would be helpful in achieving immediate ends."

"Rural Sociology Extension will have ample opportunity to lead and its leadership will be most effective if relatively few 'activities' are undertaken."

#### Extension Rural Sociologists

"We have stated as our objectives: 'The longtime objectives in rural sociology fit in with the general aim of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics as set forth by the conference of Extension Specialists. The aim of the (State) Extension Service is through educational activity to assist rural people to solve their problems in a manner both socially desirable and personally satisfying. In furthering this aim rural sociology extension: (1) aids the analyzing of effective organizations



to advance agriculture and rural life, (2) aid in discovering, analyzing, training, and guiding local leadership in rural organization, (3) aids in discovering and using local talent and appreciation, (4) aids in developing in rural leaders a realization of the interdependence of various groups affecting rural life and of a need for a system and spirit of cooperation among them, and (5) strive for an open-minded, informed, and cooperative rural citizenship."

"RSE has a contribution to make to many educational and promotional programs - people should not assume therefore that sociologists should take the lead in all matters of interest to sociologists. In RSE program should emphasize social data on group relations helpful for promoting more effective organization procedures, understanding group behavior and the significance of social trends. It has an obligation to the extension service in advising it of its relationship to rural people and the effectiveness of its group teaching technique."

"I believe that our chief function is to help the extension service and every other agency to remember that in the last analysis no program, no activity, and no organization has any function whatsoever except in terms of what is actually done in changing the lot of people - and all people - not only extension groups of 35 but the town population of 335 as well."

"However, we do think that the work of the sociologist should be planned not as an end itself but to help other members of the staff make their work most effective. Since the Smith-Lever Bill says that the purpose of the Extension Service is to aid in diffusing useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics and to encourage the application of the same, we believe that the fundamental object of the Extension Service is education. That the specific part of RSE is to interpret the social meaning of extension subject matter, to influence the social objectives, and to motivate organization and cooperative efforts. One of our first responsibilities is education in organization methods. This should provide for community and self expression; enable people to accomplish group activities and train leadership to plan and execute programs of information and action... Another objective of RSE is to develop cooperation between individuals and organizations which may lead to the organization of cooperatives. Again the checks in the questionnaire in regard to this are probably influenced by the fact that we have an Economist in Cooperative Marketing and a Specialist in Home Industries who work especially with this phase. We did not check questions relative to various age groups because we believe that the Extension Service should regard the family as a whole. We think that rural sociology extension should not infringe on the programs of other governmental agencies, health departments, State library boards, etc., but that we should promote coop-

eration and give information concerning their activities and the methods of securing these services. We should be careful to avoid entangling our educational program with any regulatory action as is implied in question 54. We believe that it is our obligation and privilege to give advice and help in organization methods to any group that desires it. Of course we would naturally give preference as a matter of planning time to the definitely farm and ranch organizations. We regard the County Home Demonstration Councils as organizations which cooperate with other groups, indirectly through them we give officers training and help with programs to such organizations as Parent Teacher Associations and Federation of Women's Clubs."

"I believe that one chief aim of RSE should be to help in maintaining a proper balance in the minds of Extension workers between those problems that are economic and those that are social. There needs to be clear analysis of causes and results, for example, many economic problems are based on and caused by certain social and human factors."

"To assist rural people to solve their problems in a manner both socially desirable and personally satisfying through education activity -

1. Aids in developing Rural Organizations to advance agricultural and rural life.
2. Aids in discovering, developing, training, and guiding local leadership, discovering and developing rural talents and appreciations.
3. Help rural leaders to an understanding of the interdependence of various groups affecting rural life and a need for a system and spirit of cooperation among them."

"More work should be done in promoting group adjustments, and to do this we need a better definition of goals and standards of measurement. For instance, capital-labor disputes are settled as if they concerned these two groups only when really the public is the most concerned group. The standard needed in this case is: What settlement will best serve the interest of all groups?"

"RSE should take the lead in democratizing the Extension Program to the extent that all planning of programs and efforts come from rural people as a result of their seeing and understanding their problems. In this manner the human element and interest will be kept in the foreground, in all of our planning. It is our job to keep our associates mindful of the relation of the man to all our efforts. The human element in economics."

#### Other Rural Sociologists

"RSE must be a sort of Johnny-on-the-spot. What it does, should or can do in any given State, county, or local community is decidedly



a function of the local situation and is affected by the attitudes and policy of the Director. My checks in Column B. often mean that RSE should take the lead if there is a need or demand and do not necessarily mean a continuous activity nor that RSE should do all these things in every State."

"I have a very definite feeling the RSE worker should keep the community emphasis rather than the organizational emphasis; that is, work with community councils, analyze community problems, help train socially-minded community leaders. Too close a tie-up with one or two local organizations is apt to make the worker lose this community perspective."

"Assist in teaching rural people how to use the facilities at hand for a more satisfactory type of living. Many who must necessarily stay on the farm can be made to see drawbacks of the city and that one can live satisfactorily in the country."

"Maybe most useful as stimulating community thought toward analysis of adequacy of level of living, including medical care, education, and social and individual recreation. Should also help promote the work of organizations indirectly which concern themselves with these things, and directly insofar as such organizations are not now in existence."

"It seems to me that RSE should be to the community as the Home Economics Department is to the home, and the Agriculture Extension is to the farm. In addition, it may serve as a coordinating influence and very largely as an aid in the understanding of social trends by other divisions of the service."

### Summary and Conclusions

The committee presents a review of previous group efforts to formulate rural sociology extension goals, and it reports a survey of current opinions about the field. Threads of definite continuity are leading to what is already rather substantial agreement concerning the general field and objectives of rural sociology extension.

"Rural sociology extension" became an officially adopted designation only nine years ago in the first national gathering of specialists, which also undertook the first group formulation of objectives - "developing the science and art of living and of working in groups." This statement of goals specified work with families, interest groups, membership relations, town-country communities, and public agencies. The Cleveland statement was basic to the recorded program objectives of most extension sociologists during 1931-32.

Specific relations to recreation, research, rural organization, and cultural arts were discussed in conferences (1931-32) at Oglebay Park. Relations to youth programs were discussed with State 4-H Club leaders assembled in Washington in 1934. A survey of programs in 1936 indicated emphasis on the



program content of rural organizations, on "cultural art" activities, and on organization service to rural groups. At regional conferences of extension sociologists in 1936, it was proposed that rural sociology extension be more active in rendering sociological information services.

At Washington (1938) carefully reported conference discussion indicated a threefold task for rural sociology extension: "helping communities help themselves," "integrating the work in the community," and encouraging "a point of view," social in nature. The Washington statement, quoted above, is especially commended to interested persons. At Lexington, in 1938, another national conference on rural sociology field and objectives suggested the appointment of the committee herewith reporting.

Each part of the several statements about field and objectives in rural sociology extension may be subsumed under one of the following headings: (1) direct educational work in disseminating sociological findings, (2) organizational and technical aid, (3) consultation service, and (4) inspirational stimulation.

At present the committee finds the most widely held general conception of field and objectives to be phrased as follows:

Rural sociology extension is concerned with the analysis of local rural situations, interpretation of these situations by reference to other events and previous experiences, and the giving of counsel, based on these interpretations, about rural social developments. When need be, it stimulates and directs ideas and activities that help to build a philosophy of an abundant rural life, and it helps the people of rural communities to coordinate their several groups and institutions.

The committee reports widespread interest among extension administrators and sociologists generally in the development of rural sociology extension. It reports a healthy flexibility of goals and aims among interested persons, yet a definite "meeting of minds" with respect to general field and objectives. Goals are becoming more clear, and an appreciation of rural sociology's contribution to the general extension program and to rural people is becoming more widespread. These trends may be expected to continue, and it may be predicted that each year will bring newer clarifications, greater consensus of opinion.

In closing this report, the committee commends to your attention the report of the standing extension committee of the society, with special mention of its discussion and lists of specific rural sociology extension activities, in terms of which the general statement of field and objectives becomes more meaningful.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXTENSION

RURAL SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Extension work of some kind has been carried on by the Land Grant Colleges of some of the States for at least 28 years. Extension sociologists have met in conference numerous times to discuss their common problems and objectives, and the annual reports of their work have been available in the archives of the Department of Agriculture. In spite of these facts, very little accurate information is available concerning the status of rural sociology extension. It is known generally that many of the activities that are carried on by the extension sociologists in some States are, in other States, carried on by specialists in other departments or by members of the administrative staffs. Variation in the organization of the Land Grant Colleges has also resulted in differences in the extent and nature of the work, for in some States the extension sociologist is attached to the department of sociology of the Land Grant College, while in others he is a member of a separate extension department with no direct connection with the sociology department.

Spurred by the contribution of the committee on teaching, through its report to the society in 1938, the committee on extension herewith attempts to present a description of the current work in rural sociology extension in the hope that it may constitute a milestone in the early life of the society, against which the extent of developments of the work may be measured in the future.

Scope of the Report

There are many phases of rural sociology extension work which should be studied at the earliest possible date but your committee has limited this report to a description of the following three:

Rural sociology extension activities now in progress  
Methods in current use  
Personnel engaged in the work

The questionnaire method was used in gathering the data here presented. Since all of the members of the committee were also members of the special committee on Field and Objectives of Rural Sociology Extension, an effort was made to combine the questionnaires for the two reports in the hope of saving our informants the task of filling out and returning two schedules. The plan was not entirely successful for although one question concerning the current extension activities was included in the special schedule, it was felt that additional requests for information concerning methods and personnel would overload the schedule, which for the purposes of the special committee was already necessarily extensive and somewhat intricate. Furthermore, the report of the special committee required individual reports from the various individuals in each State, whereas the report of this committee could best be based on a single report from each State.



The original returns on activities for each State were therefore combined and additional information concerning method and personnel was requested from one person, either the extension sociologist, a State leader, or the director of extension. One selected person in each of the States that had failed to respond to the first questionnaire was also requested to furnish the data on personnel, activities, and methods. Replies were received from 43 States. Three of the States returned the schedule with no comment, 15 replied definitely that no sociology extension work was in progress, 23 returned information concerning both methods and personnel, 1 answered concerning personnel but did not give information concerning the activities, and 1 described activities but stated definitely that no sociologist was employed to carry them out.

### Rural Sociology Extension Activities

The questionnaire that was prepared for the use of the special committee and that was also used for this report presented 86 activities, and our informants were asked to check those of current practice. (As has been explained in the report of that committee, these were not intended to be mutually exclusive but in many cases presented various shades of emphasis of the same activity.) A list of these activities reported from 23 States arrayed in the order of frequency of mention follows:

#### Current rural sociology extension activities as reported by 23 States

Activities	Number of States report- ing	Percentage of total States reporting
Promote community adult education	19	82.6
Teach a rural philosophy	18	78.3
Aid officers of farmers' organizations	17	73.8
Teach philosophy of cooperation		
Teach methods of organization		
Help communities make self-surveys	16	69.5
Prepare material for discussion groups		
Influence social objectives of other extension workers		
Improve town-country relations		
Conduct recreation institutes		
Teach local people to analyze problems		



Activities	Number of States reporting ing	Percentage of total States reporting
Organize county land-use planning	15	65.1
Teach leadership principles		
Develop junior leadership		
Teach discussion leadership		
Get farmers in contact with extension service		
Interpret social meaning of other subject matter		
Teach leadership of social games		
Conduct organization of "problem clinics"	14	60.8
Diagnose community problems		
Provide training for 4-H local leaders		
Teach "live-at-home" values		
Interpret rural life to urban people		
Teach leadership of folk dances		
Influence community objectives		
Advise county agents in program-planning procedures		
Humanize the extension program		
Counsel with community leaders		
Help P.T.A. groups with their programs	13	56.5
Lecture on sociology to adult groups		
Teach leadership of dramatics		
Have drama loan library		
Organize community land-use planning	12	52.2
Organize community clubs		
Teach leadership of community music		
Conduct camps		
Teach community planning methods		
Organize community calendars		
Train adult extension leaders		
Interpret social trends to community leaders		
Conduct extension program planning meetings	11	47.8
Promote Rural Life Sunday		
Organize talent festivals		
Send regular program outlines to organizations	10	43.5
Help parent-education and child-training specialists		
Teach family relationships		
Promote playgrounds and parks		
Organize community councils		

Activities	Number of States report- ing	Percentage of total States reporting
Organize Farm Bureaus and other farmer groups	9	39.1
Sponsor State and local youth groups		
Conduct schools for Grange lecturers or other farm- organization leaders		
Coordinate work of other departments, art, music, etc.		
Reconstruct old neighborhood life		
Demonstrate crafts		
Discover local talent		
Promote community halls		
Coordinate agricultural planning	8	34.8
Head extension work for young adults		
Conduct country-ministers' institutes		
Promote rural-school playground equipment		
Organize county choruses		
Conduct schools for officers of agricultural cooperatives	7	30.4
Help FSA in rehabilitation program		
Assist interdenominational cooperation not involving church mergers		
Conduct contests		
Counsel parents on child-parent relations	6	26.1
Teach soil conservation		
Score communities		
Conduct civic improvement campaign		
Conduct training school for library workers	5	21.7
Teach health education		
Teach rural electrification		
Promote better landlord-tenant relations		
Teach art appreciation		
Help solve community conflicts		
Encourage school consolidation	4	17.4
Organize community fire protection	3	13.0
Demonstrate painting		
Promote standard communities		
Organize county library units		
Organize delinquency prevention programs		
Organize county health units	2	8.7
Re-organize local government		
Organize county social welfare units	1	4.3

Study of the activities reported suggests one interesting idea. With the exception of recreation and discussion, the activities reported by at least 60 percent of the States have a direct relationship to the interpretation of sociological principles bearing upon rural group and community life. Such activities as "teach a rural philosophy," "teach methods of organization," "help communities make self surveys," "influence social objectives of other extension workers," "teach local people to analyze problems," "teach leadership principles," etc., agreed upon by more than a majority of States engaged in the work, suggest that the extension sociologist is coming to be a teacher of sociological principles. Examination of the activities upon which less than 50 percent of the States agree, reveals a predominance of organization and promotion activities with some teaching of subject matter unrelated to sociology. Professor Wileden discovered evidence of this trend in an investigation that he made and reported in Rural Sociology in March 1938. "The field of intra- and inter-group relationships and effectiveness may, as time passes, become the specialized field of the extension rural sociologist himself, serving either in an administrative but more likely in a consultative capacity. It appears as though his task is becoming one of appraising groups and institutions in terms of their adequacy in meeting the needs of the situation, and in counseling with the leaders and citizens in terms of future plans and needed adjustments." 1/

The high frequency of reporting recreational activities can be explained by the fact that these activities were among the first of the extension activities in the rural sociology extension programs in most of the States and their continued popularity causes a constant demand which should not be disregarded.

It is also interesting to note that although these data have been furnished by a slightly different group of States (three of the original informants failed to return the second questionnaire, while returns were added from three new States), those activities selected as "core" activities in the survey of "Field and Objectives" are included in more than 50 percent of the returns on current activities.

#### Methods of Extension Work

Five methods, which in the opinion of the committee are those most commonly used in extension work, were presented in code form and our informants were asked to indicate those used in carrying out the activities in which they were engaged. There was no restriction as to the number of methods that could be reported for any one activity. The methods were as follows: Survey and analysis; Planning and counseling; Leadership training; Preparation and distribution of materials; and Demonstration. Two States suggested that lecturing should have been added, pointing out that the radio has lent importance to this method. The returns from the 23 States indicated clearly that in most of the

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1/Wileden, A.F., Rural Sociology Extension in the Agricultural Colleges, Journal of Rural Sociology, Vol. 4, No. 1, March 1939.



activities more than one and frequently all of the methods were employed. They do vary, however, in popularity; the one used most is planning and counseling.

The checking of this method by the several States varied from 17 percent of all methods indicated by Montana to 54 percent of the methods checked by Georgia; and of the total indication of methods of 23 States, planning and counseling accounted for 31 percent. The next most popular method is the preparation and distribution of materials. It varied from 8 percent of the methods indicated by Georgia to 31 percent of the methods reported by Maryland. Its average use was 24 percent of all methods reported in 23 States. Leadership training ranked third with a range from 12 percent to 38 percent and an average mention of 13 percent, while survey and analysis ranged from 0 percent to 33 percent and showed an average of 11 percent. The detailed report is given on page 28.

#### Personnel of Rural Sociology Extension

Twenty-four States reported on extension personnel in the field of rural sociology extension. In eight of these the workers are attached to subject-matter departments other than sociology <sup>2/</sup> or to the administrative staffs of the extension service. Seventeen States reported one or more workers giving at least part time to rural sociology extension. The detailed report of the personnel as submitted from each State is given on pages 29-37.

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<sup>2/</sup>Or Agricultural Economics where rural sociology is included in that department.

Extent of Use of Various Teaching Methods in Rural Sociology Extension in the Several States:  
Proportion of Mention of Specific Methods to Total Mention of Methods by Each State

Survey and analysis	Percentage of total mention of method	Planning and counseling	Percentage of total mention of method	Leadership training	Percentage of total mention of method	Preparation and distribution of materials	Percentage of total mention of method	Demonstration	Percentage of total mention of method
Georgia	0.0	Montana	16.7	Arizona	12.2	Georgia	7.7	Georgia	0.0
Missouri	0.0	Mississippi	20.6	Ohio	15.2	Oregon	12.5	Montana	0.0
Maryland	2.4	Wisconsin	21.3	Iowa	16.5	Kentucky	13.1	Oregon	3.6
Utah	3.1	North Dakota	23.5	New York	16.6	New Hampshire	18.9	Iowa	7.2
Iowa	4.3	Maryland	23.8	Pennsylvania	17.0	Arizona	19.4	New Mexico	7.3
Rhode Island	4.8	New Mexico	24.4	Texas	17.6	Tennessee	20.3	New York	8.0
West Virginia	5.6	Utah	26.7	Kentucky	18.0	Illinois	21.3	West Virginia	8.3
Illinois	6.0	Rhode Island	26.9	Tennessee	20.3	Missouri	22.0	Illinois	8.7
New Jersey	7.4	Ohio	27.5	Wisconsin	20.4	Mississippi	23.5	Missouri	9.8
Pennsylvania	8.9	Texas	27.5	Montana	21.4	North Dakota	23.5	Ohio	11.3
Tennessee	9.8	West Virginia	27.8	New Hampshire	22.0	Wisconsin	23.7	Mississippi	13.2
New Hampshire	11.0	New Hampshire	28.6	New Jersey	22.2	Utah	24.4	Kentucky	14.8
Kentucky	11.5	Arizona	29.7	North Dakota	23.6	New York	24.6	New Jersey	14.8
Mississippi	11.8	New Jersey	29.7	Illinois	24.0	Rhode Island	25.4	Pennsylvania	14.3
North Dakota	11.8	Pennsylvania	30.3	New Mexico	24.4	Texas	25.5	Rhode Island	15.9
Texas	11.8	Tennessee	31.7	Utah	25.2	New Jersey	25.9	Maryland	16.7
Oregon	14.3	Oregon	32.1	Maryland	25.2	New Mexico	26.8	North Dakota	17.6
Ohio	15.2	New York	34.8	Rhode Island	27.0	West Virginia	27.8	Texas	17.6
New York	16.0	Missouri	36.5	West Virginia	30.5	Montana	28.6	Tennessee	17.9
Wisconsin	16.6	Illinois	40.0	Mississippi	30.9	Iowa	28.8	Wisconsin	18.0
New Mexico	17.1	Kentucky	42.6	Missouri	31.7	Pennsylvania	29.5	New Hampshire	19.5
Arizona	17.3	Iowa	43.2	Oregon	37.5	Ohio	30.8	Utah	20.6
Montana	33.3	Georgia	53.8	Georgia	38.5	Maryland	30.9	Arizona	21.4
Averages	11.1		30.5		21.1		23.9		13.4



Personnel reported by States in which the work is carried on  
by members of departments other than Sociology

Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Propor- tion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Exten- sion	Years of training in Soci- ology	Degrees
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Georgia

"Georgia has no Rural Sociology Extension Project or worker definitely assigned to this phase of Extension work -- a great deal of what is ordinarily classed as Rural Sociology Extension work is carried on by practically all members of the Extension staff."

New Jersey

Extension Associate Professor in Parent Education (Female)	Extension Specialist in Child Development and Family Relations				4	A.B.
Extension Instructor in Parent Education (Female)	Assistant Extension Specialist				4	A.B.

New Mexico

(Male)	4-H Club Specialist	12	3/10	4-H Club	1	
(Female)	4-H Club Specialist	12	3/10	4-H Club	1	
(Male)	Extension Soil Con- servation- ist	12	3/5	Soils	2	
(Male)	Extension Economist	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	Economics	4	

North Carolina

"There is no organized Rural Sociology Extension in North Carolina but all these activities are now being carried by Home agents in North Carolina and we therefore insist that she be trained on the sociological as well as the Home Economics side. Rural Sociology Extension specialists would be of inestimable service but should work as do all other extension specialists as a part of the planned work of the organized Agriculture Extension Program."

Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Proportion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Extension	Years of training in Soci- ology	Degrees
<u>North Dakota</u>						
Professor (Male)	Leader in Neighborhood activities			Head, Dept. of Public Discussion		B.A.
<u>Tennessee</u>						
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. in Farm Manage- ment	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	B.S.
Associate Professor (Female)	Home Imp.	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	P.S.
Associate Professor (Female)	Health Specialist	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	B.S.
Associate Professor (Female)	Specialist Community Service	all	all	none	5	B.A.
Associate Professor (Male)	4-H Club	all	all	none	1	B.S.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. 4-H Club Spec.	all	all	none	$\frac{3}{4}$	B.S.A.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. Agric. Economist	all	all	none	$\frac{3}{4}$	B.S.A. M.S.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. Agric. Economist	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	B.S.A.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. Agric. Economsit	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	B.S.A.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. Agric. Economist	all	all	none	2	B.S. Ph.D.
Associate Professor (Male)	Extension Methods	all	all	none	1	B.S. M.S.



Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Proportion of time given to extension	Duties other than Extension	Years of training in Sociology	Degrees
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Tennessee (Cont.)

Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. in Farm Management	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	B.S.A.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Asst. in Farm Management	all	all	none	$\frac{1}{2}$	B.S.

Utah

"There are no Rural Sociology Extension workers in the Extension Service. The two workers listed below devote all of their time to work ordinarily listed as Rural Sociology but they have no official connection with the Sociology Department, nor were they trained in Sociology. Many other staff members, particularly the Assistant Director of Home Economics, carry on some activities which are sociological. However, they are undifferentiated and the work is not known as Rural Sociology. Information about the two who devote all of their time to work usually classed Rural Sociology is given below."

Specialist (Female)	Assistant State Boys and Girls Club Leader	11	all	none	none	B.S. H.Ec.
Specialist (Male)	State Boys and Girls Club Leader	11	all	none	none	B.S. Agri.

West Virginia

West Virginia returned this statement: "Do not have Extension Sociology Specialist on the staff at present." However, a report of Sociology Extension activities was returned with no comment concerning the personnel in charge.

Personnel reported by States employing professional  
rural sociologists

Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Propor- tion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Extension	Years of training in Soci- ology	Degrees
<u>Arizona</u>						
Specialist (Male)	Extension Specialist in Rural Sociology	12	all	none	2	B.S. M.S.
<u>Illinois</u>						
Associate Professor (Male)	Ext. Spec. in Rural Sociology	all	$\frac{1}{2}$	Research and teaching	5+	B.S. M.S. Ph.D.
Associate (Male)	Associate in Rural Soc. Ext.	all	all	none	3+	B.S.
<u>Iowa</u>						
Extension Assistant (Female)	(Assistant in Home and Community Development) Music and Recreation Specialist	200 das.	all			B.A.
Extension Assistant Professor (Female)	Drama Specialist	11	all		1	B.A. M.S.
Extension Associate Professor (Male)	Extension Rural Sociologist	12	all		1+	B.S. M.S. Ph.D.
<u>Kentucky</u>						
Professor	Extension Rural Sociologist	About $2\frac{1}{2}$	About $\frac{1}{5}$	Research, Teaching, administra- tive as Department Head	Courses in Rural Sociol- ogy as a minor in graduate work	Ph.D.

Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Proportion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Extension	Years of training in Sociology	Degrees
<u>Louisiana</u>						
(Female)	Extension Sociologist	12	3/4		Many	B.A. L.L.D.
<u>Maryland</u>						
Assistant Professor (Male)	Extension Rural Sociologist	11	1/2	1/2 time teaching and re- search	3	B.S. M.R.E. E.D. Ph.D.
<u>Mississippi</u>						
Extension workers are not considered part of the faculty at State College but we work as one division of the State Agric. Col.						
(Male)	Extension Rural Organization Specialist	12	all	none	4 yrs. in present position 1/	B.S.
(Female)	Specialist Rural Women's Organization	12	all	none	4 yrs. in present position 1/ 1 semester school of graduate work	B.S., 1 semester and 1 summer
<u>Missouri</u>						
Assistant Professor (Male)	Extension Rural Sociologist	11	all	none	1	B.S. M.A. B.D.



Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Proportion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Extension	Years of training in Sociology	Degrees
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Montana 2/

Assoc. Professor and Assoc. Agri. Economist (Male)	none	11	2 mos.	Teaching and research	10	Ph.D.
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Field worker BAE rep. (Male)	Rural Sociology Planning Specialist	9	9 mos.	Rural Sociology re- search	4	M.A.
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Extension Land Econ. (Male)	Planning Specialist	11	11 mos.	none	10	A.B.
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Extension Economist (Male)	Farm Manage- ment	11	11 mos.	none Agri. Econ. research	4	M.A.
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Instructor (Male)	Agri. Econ. Planning Specialist	11	6 mos.	none	10	A.B.
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Extension Specialist (Female)	Home Manage- ment Special- ist	11	11 mos.	none	10	A.B.
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(3,4, and 5 are Agricultural Economics people)

New Hampshire  
(Male)

Extension Specialist in rural organiza- tion and recreation	(11) 12 really	all		Academic B.S. plus years of resi- dence experience re- quire- ments M.S.
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Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Proportion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Extension	Years of training in Sociology	Degrees
<u>New York</u>						
Asst. Prof. (Female)	Extension Rural Sociologist	11	3/4	Teaching	5	Ph.D.
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Extension Rural Sociologist	9	5/6	Research (S. School teaching separate contract)	5	Ph.D.
Instructor (Male)	Extension Rural Sociologist	9	all	none	2 1/2	M.S.
Assistant (Male)	Extension Assistant	9	1/3	Graduate study	1 1/2	M.A.
<u>Ohio</u>						
Asst. Prof. (Male)	Ext. Soci- ologist	11+	all	(Teach Com- (munity Re- (creation Except---(Leadership (course one (Or. every (other year (on campus	1 Grad. Certi- study ficate	
Professor (Male)	Prof. Rural Sociologist Extension	11+	all	Supervisor Farmers' In- stitutes	2 1/2+ Grad. Study also Under- Grad. work	B.S. (About 6 mos. short of Ph.D. academ- ically)

Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Propor- tion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Exten- sion	Years of training in Soci- ology	Degrees
<u>Oregon</u>						
Professor (Male)	Rural Ser- vice Speci- alist	12	all		2	B.S.
Assistant Professor (Female)	Specialist in Commu- nity Social Organization	12	all		3	M.A.
<u>Pennsylvania</u>						
Associate Professor (Male)	Rural Sociology Specialist	12	all	none	5	B.S. M.S. working on Ph.D.
<u>Rhode Island</u>						
Professor (Male)	Extension Rural Sociologist	11	1/6	Teaching research	Equival- ent of 2½ years Graduate Study	B.S.
Instructor (Male)	Extension Rural Sociolo- gist	11	2/3	Teaching	Equiv- alent of 1 - 1/3 years Graduate study	M.S.
<u>Texas</u>						
Extension workers in Texas do not come under aca- demic regi- mentation (Female)	Extension Sociolo- gist Rural women's or- ganization	12	all	none	1	B.S.



Academic rank and sex	Title in Sociology Extension	Months per year on duty	Propor- tion of time given to Extension	Duties other than Exten- sion	Years of training in Soci- ology	Degrees
<u>Wisconsin</u>						
Instructor (Male)	Extension Group Discussion Specialist	12	all	none	4 (1 yr. under- graduate, 3 yrs. graduate)	B.A. M.A.
Instructor (Female)	Drama Specialist	12	all	none	1	B.A.. M.A.
Assistant (Male)	Music Specialist	12	3/4	Private Music teaching and direct- ing	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	B.M. M.A.
Associate Professor (Male)	Rural Sociologist	10 and SS	2/3	Research and teaching in R.S. depart- ment	5- 1 yr. under- graduate 4 yrs. graduate	B.S. M.S.
Professor (Male)	Group Discussion Specialist	3/4	1/20	Teaching in Speech Dept.		B.A. Ph.D.
Associate Professor (Female)	Director Dept. De- bating and Public Discussion	4	3/10	In Univ. Ext. Div.		B.A. M.A.

1/Possibly meaning practical experience rather than academic training.

2/Years of training in Sociology" may have been interpreted as referring to extent of experience.

The following eighteen States reported no work in Rural Sociology Extension

Alabama	Idaho	Oklahoma
California	Kansas	South Carolina
Colorado	Maine	South Dakota
Connecticut	Michigan	Vermont
Delaware	Minnesota	Washington
Florida	Nevada	Wyoming

Conclusion

Reports of activities now in progress in 23 States seem to indicate a trend of development in rural sociology extension from active organization and promotion of community projects to education and guidance of community leaders to employ practices based on sociological principles in the promotion and organization of their own community activities. The methods employed in extension work are varied and in most cases several different methods were reported for the same activity. The order of popularity of the five common methods of extension work are: planning and counseling, preparation and distribution of materials, leadership training, demonstration, and survey and analysis. It is possible that a study of the relation of method to the various phases of subject matter might be fruitful and without doubt the relation of extension subject matter and methods to research is urgently needed.

.. In surveying the personnel reported by 24 States one is impressed by the relatively short list of workers with professional training and the large number of workers with little or no training in the field who are reported as doing work in extension rural sociology. This suggests either uncertainty as to what constitutes the field of rural sociology extension work or a lack of appreciation of the value of academic training in sociology for applied work in the field. Eighteen States, an extremely high proportion, reported absolutely no work in sociology extension.

. . Your committee presents the foregoing report without recommendations. We hope it may be of service in measuring future development in an increasing number of States.

Respectfully submitted

A.F. Wileden

W.H. Stacy

Mary Eva Duthie, Chairman

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

December 27, 1939

Appendix

Table A.- The number and percentage of persons who report that rural sociology extension should take the lead in specified activities compared with the number and percentage of States that currently conduct the same activities

Activities	Persons who report that RSE should take the lead		States reporting each activity as current	
	Number	Percentage 1/	Number	Percentage 1/
Interpret social trends to community leaders	119	91	12	52
Lecture on sociology to adult groups	117	89	13	57
Influence social objectives of other Extension workers	104	78	16	70
Interpret social meaning of other subject matter	95	73	15	65
Teach leadership principles	86	64	15	65
Diagnose community problems	85	63	14	61
Teach a rural philosophy	85	64	18	78
Teach local people to analyze problems	82	60	16	70
Conduct organization "problem clinics"	82	61	14	61
Help communities make self-surveys	80	61	16	70
Humanize the Extension program	77	59	14	61
Interpret rural life to urban people	76	58	14	61
Teach leadership of social games	74	54	15	65
Conduct recreation institutes	72	52	16	70
Improve town-country relations	71	52	16	70
Organize talent festivals	70	52	11	48
Teach leadership of folk dances	69	50	14	61
Teach discussion leadership	69	51	15	65
Teach leadership of dramatics	68	49	13	57
Influence community objectives	68	50	14	61
Teach methods of organization	67	51	17	74
Teach leadership of group music	66	47	12	52
Have drama loan library	65	47	13	57
Teach community planning methods	65	50	12	52
Score communities	63	51	6	26
Conduct country ministers' institutes	63	45	8	35
Reconstruct old neighborhood life	60	53	9	39
Promote rural life Sunday	58	45	11	48
Organize county choruses	56	41	8	35
Coordinate art, music, etc., work of other departments	53	42	9	39
Send regular program outlines to organizations	50	42	10	44
Promote standard communities	49	42	3	13
Assist interdenominational cooperation not involving church mergers	48	35	7	30

1/ Percentage of total reporting.



Table B.- The number and percentage of persons who report that rural sociology extension should share equally with other extension fields in conducting specified activities, and the number and percentage of States that currently conduct the same activity

Activities	: Persons who report : States reporting each		: that RSE should : activity as current	
	: share equally with : : other extension : : fields :		:	
	Number	Percentage 1/	Number	Percentage 1/
Train adult Extension local leaders	85	65	12	52
Get farmers in contact with Extension service	84	62	15	65
Prepare material for discussion groups	73	53	16	70
Teach "live-at-home" values	12	17	14	61
Develop junior leadership	71	55	15	65
Aid officers of farmers' organizations	67	50	17	74
Promote community adult education	66	48	19	83
Counsel with community leaders	63	48	14	61
Teach philosophy of cooperation	61	46	17	74
Conduct Extension program planning meetings	61	46	11	48
Sponsor State and local youth groups	60	44	9	39
Conduct camps	56	41	12	52
Coordinate agricultural planning	55	41	8	35
Promote better landlord-tenant relations	55	40	5	22
Discover local talent	53	40	9	39
Organize community calendars	46	37	12	52
Conduct training school for library workers	18	13	5	22
Conduct school for Grange lecturers or other farm organizational leaders	44	34	9	39
Teach soil conservation	18	13	6	26
Conduct contests	37	33	7	34

1/ Percentage of total reporting.

Table C.- The number and percentage of persons who report that rural sociology extension should help, but others should lead in specified activities, compared with the number and percentage of States that currently conduct the same activity

Activities	: Persons who report : : that RSE should help : : but others lead :		: States reporting : each activity as : current	
	: Number: Percentage 1/ :		: Number: Percentage 1/ :	
Organize county land-use planning	80	58	15	65
Organize community land-use planning	78	57	12	52
Promote rural school playground equipment	65	47	8	35
Help parent-education and child training specialists	64	46	10	44
Provide training for 4-H local leaders	63	47	14	61
Teach health education	61	46	5	22
Help FSA in rehabilitation program	60	46	7	30
Promote playgrounds and parks	60	44	10	44
Conduct schools for officers of agricultural cooperatives	59	43	7	30
Teach soil conservation	59	43	6	26
Teach rural electrification	59	45	5	22
Counsel parents on parent-child relations	57	42	6	26
Organize county library units	56	40	3	13
Conduct camps	56	40	12	52
Organize community fire protection	54	42	3	13
Conduct civic improvement campaign	50	37	6	26
Promote community halls	50	38	9	39
Demonstrate crafts	50	36	9	39
Help P.T.A. groups with their programs	49	37	13	57
Organize county health units	49	35	2	9
Teach art appreciation	48	35	5	22
Organize community clubs	43	33	12	52
Organize delinquency prevention programs	43	31	3	13
Demonstrate painting	43	32	3	13
Advise county agents in program planning procedures	34	25	14	61

1/ Percentage of total reporting.

Table D.- The number and percentage of States that currently conduct specified RSE activities not listed in tables above

Activities	States reporting	
	each activity as current	
	Number	Percentage 1/
Teach family relationships	10	44
Organize community councils	10	44
Organize farm bureaus and other farmer groups	9	39
Head Extension work for young adults	8	35
Help solve community conflicts	5	22
Encourage school consolidation	4	17
Reorganize local government	2	9
Organize county social welfare units	1	4

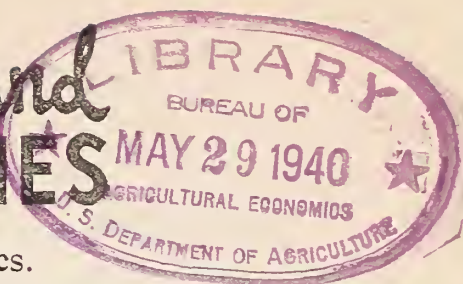
1/ Percentage of total reporting.



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# FARM POPULATION *and* RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

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DIVISION OF FARM POPULATION AND RURAL WELFARE

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# A RESURVEY OF THE SHELL ROCK COMMUNITY

By Earl H. Bell

###

Introductory Note by Carl C. Taylor: The following report is presented as an example of the ease with which significant sociological observations can be made when the observer is well trained, or has eyes with which to see significant things. It is true that Dr. Bell had the advantage of having made a detailed study of it a decade ago. Undoubtedly, therefore, neither he nor anyone else would be able in 2 short weeks to see and understand what he did in this instance without these backgrounds. It is believed, however, that with the same viewpoints an observer can in a few months duplicate findings of this type in almost any normal rural community in America. At least, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is attempting to demonstrate this fact in six different rural areas of the United States at this time. Some of the questions which it will attempt to answer are: (1) Must elaborate statistical studies be made in order to record significant and important psychological and social structure changes in a rural community? (2) Are observations such as recorded here sufficiently valid to be trustworthy? (3) Are the records of such observations of practical value to agricultural and community programs, of which there are a great many at the present time?

We should keep in mind that Dr. Bell spent but 2 weeks in the Shell Rock community in making these observations, and that his findings are recorded and published here as much to invite discussion on the questions just posed as they are to present the findings themselves.

###

## INTRODUCTION

During the last decade Shell Rock, Iowa, with the rest of the Nation, has suffered from the most intense and prolonged depression in American history. Its modestly wealthy farmers have gone through the experience of having their bins heaped full with grain for which they could find no market. Their pens have been packed with hogs fattened for the market but for which they have received only a pittance when sold. Their buildings normally well kept have fallen into disrepair and become shabby from lack of paint. Knowing that millions in our own country have been in want of food and clothing, they have been told that their own hardships have been caused by their raising too much corn and too many hogs. They have seen organized agricultural agencies - such as the Farm Bureau and the State Agricultural College - and farm papers, which formerly devoted all their efforts to expanding production, reverse themselves and advocate restricted production. Governmental machinery has been set up to bring about this restriction of production and for the first time they have been brought into intimate contact with the Federal Government.

Moreover, during this decade they have seen the virtual completion of the mechanical revolution of the farm. Horses, still the dominant power on the farm in 1929, are now almost completely replaced by the tractor. The mechanical corn picker has become important. Homes and barns have been electrified.



They have received benefit checks in payment for their cooperation in crop restriction. In spite of the oft-heard cry of increasing taxes and mounting governmental deficits their taxes are less than those of 10 years ago.

This decade just completed has been the most remarkable one in the memory of the Shell Rock community. Some of the outstanding events can be summarized as follows:

(1) The great depression. After a full decade of depression the real income of the Iowa farmer has climbed again to and slightly exceeded that of 1929. (2) The mechanization of farm power. The tractor is almost universally used in all farm work and the truck has replaced the team and wagon. (3) The electrification of the farm. (4) The limitation of acreage, through governmentally supervised voluntary association. (5) The substitution of hybrid corn for open pollinated corn. This together with other improved farm methods has so greatly increased the yield that during the past year many farmers have produced more corn on their farms than ever before despite a sharp reduction in acreage. (6) The Federal Government has become an important reality with which the farmer has first-hand contacts and business relations. (7) A great drop in land valuations. (8) An increased consciousness of the need for land conservation.

### The Problems

What has been the effect of these changes on (1) the men and women as psychological and social beings and (2) the structure of the community? Certainly such events must be reflected to some extent in the community organization and even to a greater extent in the thinking and behavior of the individual. The purpose of this study was to determine the nature of the changes and the new problems that have followed in their wake.

### The Method

Such a study first of all necessitates a thorough knowledge of the community previous to the last decade. Fortunately, in 1931 the writer had made such a study, and it was used constantly as a background against which the present conditions could be checked.

During the 2 weeks allotted for the present study, the writer participated in as many community and social activities as possible. Information of a factual nature was obtained through interviews with individuals in key positions. Unfortunately, time did not permit the checking of records of a statistical nature.

A modification of the interview method was used in an attempt to gain information concerning attitudes, beliefs, and opinions. An assistant, sympathetic to the study and intimately acquainted with the residents, was coached to guide conversation into the desired channels. Thus the writer was able to remain on the sidelines and still be a participating observer. Considerable time was spent visiting informally with individuals and small groups of from 2 to 6 persons in the village. Many evenings were spent in the homes of residents. In all, approximately 80 people, including 12 women, were interviewed alone or in groups in the manner described. Ten were business men.



## THE COMMUNITY

Shell Rock is chiefly agricultural, with a village serving primarily as a center for distribution, assembly, and personal service. The sole support of the community comes directly from the soil. An industrial town, however, is about 30 miles away. The citizens are, for the most part, old American stock and Protestants from the East. On the fringe of the community is a group of relatively recent immigrants. The first study indicated that the entire community was in a state of disintegration.

### Commercial Versus Noncommercial Farming

The community has a history covering slightly less than a century. Enough settlements had been made by 1853 to warrant an attempt to organize a county, but as late as 1865 the population was still so sparse that Civil War soldiers purchased good farm land from the Government within 3 miles of the already 10-year-old town of Shell Rock. During its history the dominant trend has been the increasing dependence of individuals and the community upon people and processes on the outside. As this dependence has increased, self-sufficiency of the family and community has declined and money has become ever more important in the local economy. Activities which formerly were performed in the home have been shifted outside the community, and processing activities formerly performed in the village center are now carried on in manufacturing centers. The momentum of this trend seems to have carried it to a point at which the costs became greater than the returns and brought about the decline of many desirable farm practices. This is chiefly reflected in the farmstead activities.

At the period of the settlement of the community practically every farmer planted and soon had a bearing orchard. The fruit in excess of the immediate needs was dried and otherwise stored for use during the long winter. Now those orchards have been neglected, dead trees have not been replaced, and the community is largely dependent upon the commercial orchards of the Nation for fruit. Even vegetable gardens, formerly so important on every farm and in the village, have lost their important place in the home economy. Within the community are two commercial gardeners who sell their produce to farmers as well as village dwellers. Practically no effort is made to store vegetables or fruit for winter use. Winter vegetables are obtained from the grocers who secure them through the channels of national trade from Florida, California, or other such sources. The canning and preserving of fruits in the home has likewise declined and the commercial product is purchased from the retail stores.

The baking of bread, formerly a home industry, has now practically disappeared. While that industry possibly could be carried on more economically in the village center, most bread is obtained from bakeries in large cities, some as far distant as 175 miles, from which it is carried by truck. Butchering and curing of meat on the farm is practically obsolete. Meat obtained from the local butcher shop is shipped in from Chicago and other centers of the packing industry. There is a moderately large packing plant 35 miles away to which most local hogs and cattle are sold. Very little is sold in Shell Rock.

These are only a few of the many everyday items of subsistence, the growing and processing of which was formerly done in the home or village but



which are no longer a function of either. Enumeration of all of them would seem almost interminable.

The process of farming itself is far less self-sufficient than formerly. The farm power - formerly the ox and later the horse - was largely produced upon the farm but is now supplied by tractors and trucks which are manufactured in the industrial centers. The fuel to run them comes through the channels of trade rather than being produced on the farm as was the fuel (grain) for the ox and the horse.

As the material items of everyday life so often used as an indication of the "Standard of living" have increased in numbers and variety, they have come more and more from outside sources through channels of national trade.

All of these trends have increased the importance of money in the community and to the farmer. The new needs for money are for the purchase of: (1) foodstuffs formerly produced on the farm and processed either on the farm or in the village; (2) power and fuel formerly produced on the farm or in the community; (3) commercial fertilizers and feeds; (4) new material items as a result of the increased standard of living; and (5) commercial entertainment replacing the old self-made, noncommercial recreation.

These factors when combined are a tremendous force which has turned the farmer away from attitudes of self-sufficiency and its accompanying ruralism. It has turned him from a community economy to the larger national economy. The new organization has increased the importance of money and developed a capitalistic or, better, commercial psychology.

Organized agencies promoting agriculture have likewise fostered agricultural commercialism. Especially important in this respect is the urging of an accounting system taken over in a modified form from systems developed for business.

In general the farmer as well as the village dweller of the Shell Rock community is but little more self-sufficient than the city dweller. There are, however, some notable exceptions which should be mentioned here. First, in spite of the commercial nature of his agriculture the Shell Rock farmer is in an advantageous position to shift back to self-sufficiency when the commercial system breaks down - as during depressions. In 1932 at the depths of the depression there was a marked return to the old ways of self-sufficiency. But most of these did not survive to the end of the decade. The canning of beef and pork butchered on the farm is an example. Most of the farm people interviewed have practically discontinued or have severely curtailed the practice because "we do not like canned meat any more. . . it is so much trouble to cure and smoke your own bacon and ham. . . one can't afford to can corn and tomatoes when you can buy them so cheaply . . . we like fresh stuff like lettuce and cabbage so much better than the old stuff we used to keep in the basement. It's so much greener and fresher, it just must have more vitamins in it."

These were common comments when the conversation was led around to the subject of self-sufficiency. The matter of taste is certainly one which cannot be questioned, and they are probably correct about the cost if they follow the practices of business in cost accounting. A self-sufficient rural group



would be expected to have food patterns which would set them apart from urban groups. Such differences did exist only two decades ago. If such a difference now exists, other than a little more lavish use of cream and butter, it is not noticeable. Breakfasts are slightly heavier and dinner is served at noon, but the same foods are eaten by both country and city people. This clearly indicates that social values, insofar as they exist in relation to food, are the same as those of the urban areas. In fact, these values are a bit stronger among the rural people as they have become symbols of social and economic standing. There is no doubt that the rural people have a slight feeling of inferiority in relation to the urban dwellers which makes them cling all the more tenaciously to such obvious symbols as grapefruit and fresh meat. This attitude is in sharp contrast to that of only 25 years ago when the strongest words of condemnation were "they live out of a paper sack and a tin can."

For several decades rural people have looked to the city as the place of opportunity and the more desirable standard of living. Consequently, their efforts have been in the direction of making rural life as nearly as possible a "reasonably exact facsimile" of city life rather than of attempting to develop an integrated rural culture pattern or "mode of life." This is clearly indicated when informants are asked to give the changes in rural life during the last century. Even before mentioning the revolutionary changes in farming techniques they say, "The farmer has gotten many of the advantages of city life." This is in sharp contrast to the attitude expressed in the debates of the seventies and eighties on such subjects as "Which is the better life, the farm or the city?"

On the fringes of the community are some families with the remnants of a rural culture. Their dress is plainer (less "in style") and the women do not use beauty parlors. Their children are taken out of school at a younger age. The women work at what is usually considered man's work. Most of their food is obtained from the farm and their recreation is not so intimately associated with the city or commercialism.

For the most part, these are relatively recent immigrants and their ruralistic behavior is not due to the fact that they place a value on their rural mode of life. On the contrary, it is a byproduct of another value which they regard very highly - the ownership of land. These immigrants had the land hunger of a culture in which land was the major symbol of social status. The desire for land was not weakened by new wants which the old Americans had come to regard as having greater social and cultural value. In the center of the community among the old American stock the farms are relatively small, being from 80 to 160 acres. On the fringes of the community in the area mentioned above, many farms run above 320 acres. Every effort of the entire family is directed toward the acquisition of land. That the conditions are not representative of a true ruralism is indicated by the fact that they do adopt every device of the modern farming technique. They have fine farm buildings other than a house. The most modern equipment will be found in the barn but the housewife carries water from a well several yards away - inconvenient to the house but convenient to the barns. These groups marry largely among themselves as their nationality, church and other institutions, and psychology hold them together as a social unit. Also, the lack of education acts as a social barrier not through snobbishness on the part of the main community but rather because there has been no opportunity for education to act as an agency of cultural



diffusion. Whereas education has been the great agency of diffusion in the bringing of urban culture to the rural people and has triumphed over the more conservative institutions, among this immigrant group the conservative institutions have remained dominant.

In the Shell Rock community education appears to be the most important institution. This implies not only the formal curriculum, but the extra-curricular activities, the informal diffusion of urban patterns of life, and that which is perhaps still more important, the way in which people look upon education as omnipotent. In this respect it has overshadowed the church, for people no longer look to that institution for a Moses to lead them to the promised land. Rather they say almost automatically that any given problem will have to be solved by education.

By way of summary it may be said that: (1) various educational agencies have introduced and the people have adopted the urban values and mode of life; (2) mechanization of farming has greatly increased the importance of money to the farmer who must have it to acquire the necessary technological equipment; and (3) the introduction of farm accounting has made the farmer cost conscious and has been an important factor in crowding out many practices that tended to make him self-sufficient.

The attitude of the Shell Rock farmer can best be summarized by this statement, often heard: "One of the finest things about the present administration (agricultural) is that it has recognized farming as a business."

#### THE FARM UNIT AND THE PEOPLE

The early settlers of the community placed little value upon the large amount of land. They came chiefly to acquire land upon which to establish homes for themselves. In Butler and Shell Rock townships, which are typical of the main community, the following distribution is given for 284 units in 1917:

<u>Size of Farm in Acres</u>	<u>Number of Such Units</u>
Under 40	10
40-60	20
61-80	41
81-100	22
101-200	41
121-140	18
141-160	65
161-180	10
191-200	21
Over 200	36

Of the 36 farms with over 200 acres, a large proportion was native pasture, considered unfit for cultivation. The owners of this pasture land followed the practice of taking in stock for summer grazing at so much per head.

There seems to be some evidence of a tendency toward larger units. But if the 50-odd farmers who expressed their opinions on this subject are representative, the majority of the community believe that the farm unit should be smaller than it now is. Most of those interviewed expressed the opinion that farms were generally too large and that the ideal size is about 80 to 120 acres.

Farmers having larger units felt the same as those with the smaller farms. The large farms that are for rent are the last ones to be rented. People do not wish to force their families to make the sacrifices necessary to operate a large unit. Social prestige is not dependent upon owning large blocks of land. Most of the people of high prestige operate relatively small units, and a sizable proportion of them are renters. They have placed the major emphasis upon the acquisition of material things, which are believed to raise the standard of living, and the enjoyment of social and recreational activities. The leaders in the religious, educational, and social activities, and, more recently, in the farm program are operators of the smaller units.

Although the Shell Rock farmer is a commercial farmer, he does have deeply within him the desire to see agriculture as a mode of life, providing this life does not set him apart from urban people or prevent him from having the material advantages of urban life. He is, according to Selig Perlman's designation, the individualistic capitalist in contrast to the corporate capitalist. While his culture is in a state of disorganization, that condition is induced by his enforced adjustment to the modern national economy and twentieth-century progress rather than by a fundamental change in his psychological organization. He is still lost in a culture which is not of his making, but in the 10-year interval since the first study of this community was made he has made great progress in orienting himself. He no longer looks upon agriculture as a confining occupation from which he hopes to buy his freedom and from which he tries to save his children. In regard to the first, he is modernizing his home and is finding that modern machinery releases him from the long hours that he formerly put in. He says that while he will never make a fortune he can make a comfortable living providing he does not try to operate too large a unit. Meantime, he is worrying about how his children can get a start in farming, rather than how he can lift them to a better occupation.

#### Ownership and Tenancy

In 1930 tenancy was not an acute problem. Although many farms were rented, the tenants were stable except on the poor land. Tenancy had two important points in its favor. First, it permitted the young people to start farming without such a great outlay of capital. Second, it provided a local plan of old-age assistance. Practically all the aged and the widows in the village were supported by rentals from their farms. Hardship did not come to the tenant so much as to the owner who bought land at a high price and was trying to pay off a loan made on an inflated valuation with an income from deflated crop prices. This was pointed out upon several occasions with dramatic illustrations.

A vital tenancy problem does exist now. There are not enough farms to go around. A large number of middle-aged operators, reputed to be definitely above average farmers, have not been able to rent farms for next year. Several factors are involved in the situation. The farmers themselves say that a farm can no longer support two families. A large number of retired farm owners have returned to their farms, and, rather than rent them, hire a man, frequently a married man, at \$30 a month to do most of the work. This movement has been accentuated by Iowa's homestead exemption law which gives a sizable tax refund to owner-operators. Another probable factor is the enlarging of the size of the



unit, as pointed out above. Still another factor is said to be the manner in which the farm program works to the advantage of an owner-operator rather than a landlord and a renter, although informants were vague as to just how this operates.

### Land Values

Land values have fluctuated violently during the brief history of the community. The original homesteaders paid \$2.50 per acre for the unimproved land. Most of the improvements were built of native lumber sawed at the local lumber mill. After that time land values rose to over \$200 per acre during the World War, then slumped to under \$50 per acre during the early thirties; since then they have risen to about \$70 to \$80 per acre for the best farms.

The greatest hardships of the depression years came to those who bought and sold during the period of inflated values. That was also a period of expansion of land holdings. Not only did renters buy but owner-operators bought more land, mortgaging both farms at inflated prices, thus losing all they had and obligating themselves for high interest payments which could not be met with deflated produce prices. This may be one important factor in the belief of the people that it is best to retain the smaller units.

A number of people were questioned concerning their attitude toward the relative merits of high and low land values. While they have not clearly formulated their opinions in this matter, all of them thought it would be better for the community as a whole if values did not go much above \$100 per acre. This held even for those who had paid more and had been able to retain their farms.

Several farmers said that land values should be held to a level that would permit a farm to pay for itself every generation. They had not thought this completely through, but most of them are concerned with two things; first, a comfortable living; second, the provision of some means whereby the young people may find a position in the economic system.

### Conflict Between Young and Old

Indication was found of a diminution of the conflict between the children and their parents which was pronounced 10 years ago. In general the older group is accepting the customs of the young. The depression has mellowed both groups. During that time there was a general tightening of the family belt and a return to some of the older ways. Money to buy entertainment was not so plentiful but the family was brought closer together and apparently compromises were worked out.

The parents who had wanted to be generous with their children in regard to needs which could be met with money found themselves unable to do so, so they made concessions of another nature. A new group of parents has come to the fore; they are younger and consequently better acquainted with modern culture than were their predecessors of 10 years ago.

Use of the family automobile, which was a bone of contention, apparently is being solved satisfactorily through a reasonable division of its use.



On the part of the parents there is a sympathetic understanding of the problems of the young because they recognize the scarcity of opportunity for youth. The city is no longer looked upon as a place of unlimited opportunity. Many young men who have gone to the neighboring city and been hired in the factories have been repeatedly out of work.

Concurrently, there has been an increase of opportunity in the village center. The old people, who 10 years ago were still running the business, have been replaced for the most part by very young people. But it is probable that most opportunities of this sort have been filled now and conditions will become more acute.

Thirty years ago any young man could get work on a farm and wages were relatively good, ranging from \$25 to \$30 per month, with board and room and feed for his horse if he had one. The costs of social life were not high, and if he were a hard-working young man of "serious" nature, he would soon have \$300 or \$400 saved. With that capital, the credit for a few hundred dollars more which the bank would gladly extend to a promising "hard workers," and with a bride of promise as a "good wife," a young man could rent a farm and start out for himself. Now, wages are no higher, the cost of even moderate social activity is considerably higher, and the initial cost to operate a farm takes almost as many thousands of dollars as it did hundreds in earlier years.

#### Attitude Toward the Farm Program

Last year over 95 percent of the land in Butler County was operated within the AAA program. Next year the farmers expect that compliance with the program will necessitate a further reduction of 11 percent in corn acreage, and some of the AAA committee men fear a reduction in the number of cooperators. Others think that the only strong dissension will come from those on the fringe of the community.

Many farmers indicated the belief that a reduction is necessary, and, as supporting evidence, pointed to the visible surplus under seal on the farms and at the railroad stations. The program of keeping surplus corn in the local community where it can be seen has been a strong force in keeping the farmer conscious of the menace of unrestricted production. Several farmers mentioned the fear that an increased amount of sealed surplus corn might bring about an abandonment of that particular aspect of the program. This is probably the most important factor motivating the farmer to accept the further reduction in acreage.

Most farmers of the community believe in the effectiveness of the program in keeping farm prices up. Eight men specifically stated that they believed a severe price drop in corn had been averted by the sealing program. Some others indicated their belief that the visible surplus was depressing corn prices even in spite of the sealing program. Either of these beliefs indicates a general attitude in harmony with acreage limitation.

While the study was in process hog prices were greatly depressed. Wallace's Farmer, a journal taken by most farmers in the community, carried a long article pointing out that the probable next year's pig production would exceed that for the current year and that if this were so, prices would be still more depressed. Several leading farmers mentioned the article and said they were not going to increase their own production. It is most significant



that farmers discuss the probable production of produce in advance and think of it as an important factor in the operation of their own farm business. The Shell Rock farmer has become aware of the fact that his major problem is no longer one of mere production, but of intelligent management of production. Until 10 years ago, the same farmers were devoting most of their effort and thought to increased production.

One man who has 120 acres which he operates alone pointed out that production was no longer a problem. He said: "Modern farm power enables me to farm much better than I used to. I used to get behind on my work and sometimes I did not get my corn cultivated more than twice. Now I am never behind on my work. Last year I was in the AAA program but raised more corn than I ever did before. I used to be short on pasture and hay because a man on a small farm could not afford to have much in pasture or hay."

Others, in pointing out the reasons for small acreages, have also said that modern agricultural methods have made the small farm a more manageable unit.

Conservation of land resources has not been so spectacular a problem in Butler County as in some other parts of the State. Erosion, specially gullying, is negligible. On the other hand, several farms have been depleted by cropping. Two of these have been wisely managed during the past 20 years and are almost completely restored.

The extent to which the farmers recognize the importance of land conservation is indicated by discussions of a noxious-weed-eradication program of the County Committee. One farmer expressed the sentiment of many others when he said, "I guess it's pretty important to keep the weeds cut along the road but mostly weeds in the field are on farms that haven't had enough seeding." Another, pointing out a field that was overrun with cockle-burs when he bought the farm, said, "I seeded it down several times and now there is hardly a weed in the field." Several people felt that the best thing about the farm program was that it had "encouraged more seeding."

#### Agricultural Adjustment Administration Payments

The County Committee men are all thoroughly in favor of the Agricultural adjustment program, but without exception they are thoroughly worried over its cost. They believe a way must be worked out whereby it can be self-supporting. In their opinion, most of the cooperators do not conform solely for "the check," but at the same time it is a very important factor and without it so many would drop out that the program would become ineffective.

Some difficulty was encountered in interviewing the committee men as they wanted to ask most of the questions. The following are examples of their questions:

(1) "Don't you think that the cost of the program as it is now administered will bring about its defeat?" In discussing this, they brought out the antagonistic attitude of some of the village business men, a point which will be discussed later.

(2) "How can we educate the farmers so that they will participate without benefit payments?"



(3) "If prices rise, will the farmers forget the 'hard times' and again initiate unrestricted production?"

(4) "Will a change in administration abolish the farm program?"

(5) "What will ever be done with the surplus now stored?" (This is a region in which crop failures are unknown.) In discussing this, they pointed out the reverse of the argument in favor of storage in the community - that is, that the opponents of the agricultural program point to the great visible surplus as an indication that the program has been a costly failure.

The committee men probably have underestimated the change in the attitudes of farmers. As compared with those of 9 years ago, a significant change is apparent. These can be enumerated as follows:

(1) There is a general recognition of the fact that production should be controlled. (2) The farm-management plan which includes more soil-conserving crops is a better and more profitable individual farm program. (3) The farmer believes that his problems may be solved by cooperative effort between him and the Government. He does not have the defeatist attitude that "farmers cannot stick together." (4) The farmer does not desire to go through another period of wild expansion of prices and farm values. He looks upon the war-time boom as the cause of the later depression. (5) The farmer has become more independent of thought. While his breach with the thinking of the business man is unfortunate in some ways, it has given him a self-confidence and independence that he lacked before.

#### Attitude Toward Rural Electrification

For 30 years the farmers of Shell Rock dreamed of the time they could have electricity. Some of them bought small 32-volt systems but these were considered a makeshift until the day when they could get unlimited power from a highline. In 1917 a highline went through the county, and many of the farmers whose land was adjacent to it expected to electrify their farms. They immediately called upon the company officials but were finally given an estimated cost they believed too high. During the last 5 years a majority of the farms have been electrified by REA. A number of informants consider electricity the greatest improvement on their farms.

Eighteen farmers said the initiation of this movement by REA brought an advertising program in the city newspapers by private power companies aimed against governmental competition.

Rural electrification has been an important promoter of business in the village and in a way is a criterion of the financial condition of the farmers. The average cost of wiring has been \$250. Most of the farm homes have many appliances, including lamps, toasters, washing machines, radios, a small motor, and ice boxes. In Shell Rock at least 60 electric ice boxes, averaging over \$200 each, were sold by local stores to farmers in 1939.

#### Attitude Toward the National Debt

Among the town people, especially the business men, there is great concern over the national indebtedness. The farmers apparently are not so con-



cerned in that respect. In conversation on that subject, they said the debt was not so big as it seemed. They pointed out that part of it was represented in their rural-electrification system and part in the corn upon which they had been loaned money. The first they fully expect to liquidate itself, as any enterprise that requires capital financing; the second they yet hope to sell at above the loan rate.

The difference in the attitude of town and country people is one of many which have developed in the past decade. This particular difference may be due to the fact that the town people have not been directly benefited by governmental spending. A check drawn on the United States Treasury is a much more tangible thing than the indirect benefits derived by the local merchant who gets it in return for an electric ice box. Then, too, the farmer is much more familiar with long-term indebtedness than is the small-town merchant.

### Conflict Between Town and Country

Ten years ago there was unity between town and country people in the Shell Rock community. Both went to the same churches, belonged to the same fraternal societies and lodges, voted for the same political party, and thought in practically the same patterns. But relations between the two have now become more strained. For instance, there was some disagreement between them when the county ministerial society passed a resolution condemning "the killing of little pigs when the country is faced with want and hunger." Several business men pointed out that the Federal Government was indulging in class favoritism by granting aid to the farmers and not to the business men (meaning small local business).

Political alignments in the community are now in a state of flux. Formerly the community was overwhelmingly of one political party, including most of the community leaders. Members of the opposing party were so few that many county offices were not contested by that party. At present, most of the county planning board, AAA committee men, REA organizers, and other local farm leaders are men who have been more or less active in the local organization of the predominating party. Many have held minor political offices, such as assessor, township supervisor, and election clerk. The fact that they are in the present administrative machinery has developed minor personality conflicts. Their former political associates among the townspeople twit them both good naturedly and more seriously. Some resent the attacks of former associates upon administrative policies which they favor. Leadership of the predominating party now is centered almost entirely in the village. The few business men who were formerly of the minority viewpoint now seem to be more sympathetic to the other point of view or at least out of sympathy with the present farm policy, especially as it relates to spending. The shift in political lines and the town-country difference of opinion was concretely illustrated in the last election.

Some of the farmers who are now farm-program leaders complained about the attitude of the townsmen. One made the following significant statement: "We farmers always used to follow the town people. Now we are thinking for ourselves and the town fellows don't like it."

Regardless of former party allegiance the great majority of the farmers appear to be in sympathy with the farm program. It should be mentioned that



some of these farmers had been moving, for sometime, away from extreme conservatism. At a grass-roots meeting held in Des Moines during the time this study was in progress, leaders told the meeting that if the farmers were to be held they must include the farm program in their platform.

Generally speaking, individuals are thinking and acting more independently when current issues are involved.

#### Conflict within the Farmer Group

The above discussion reports the dominant opinions and attitudes among the farmer group and is not meant to indicate a unanimity of opinion. Of the 70 farm men and women, 15 men should be classified as actively in support of the farm program though they believe there are faults that should be corrected; 28 warmly favor it but are not active; 25 are lukewarm toward it; and 2 are actively and vocally opposed to it.

The first 15 are mainly local individuals who have a pre-farm-program history of leadership in church, lodge, school, political, Farm Bureau, and World War Liberty Loan and Red Cross activities. A few of them are not liked by some members of the community but nearly everyone admits their ability. Most of the leaders are men past middle age who have farmed all their lives and now operate small farms of from 80 to 140 acres. Some of the renters among them have lived on the same farm for 25 years or more. They like farm life and have the reputation of "good" farmers, but some people think they engage in other activities too much.

The 28 who warmly favor the program are substantial farmers who have never acted as leaders but have been staunch supporters of community activities and institutions. They have a reputation for thinking but are much quieter and do not wish to be in the spot light of leadership. They are the shock troops of the leaders in the farm program as they have been in other activities.

Those 25 classified as "lukewarm" are hard-working folk. Most of them are excellent farmers but do not participate in many social or recreational activities; nor have they held positions of leadership. Many of these people appear not to have a clear understanding of the farm program beyond the fact that in return for certain compliances they get a Government check. Apparently they have not formulated any definite opinions. Some have a defeatist attitude toward any design to better agricultural conditions. Their main faith and values are hard work and frugality. One of them said, "Oh, I guess it (sealing of corn) is all right but I sometimes think maybe we are just fooling ourselves." Another said; "It looks pretty good now but nothing ever has helped the farmers. There are too many of them and they just can't get together."

One farmer who actively opposed the farm program (one of the few who indicated concern over foreign imports) advocates price fixing as a solution and objects to the limitation of production "as long as so many don't have enough to eat." Another says that he started out with nothing and "never asked for anything of anyone." He believes that "anyone who works hard and tends to his business will not need help from anyone." He has "lived through several depressions and people tightened up their belts and pulled through .... People did not expect to be coddled in those days but worked hard and didn't expect to have automobiles and radios."



### Patterns of Buying

In 1931 business was drifting away from the village and people were going to the larger towns nearby. This process now appears to be partially reversing itself. The two hardware stores are doing as much business - perhaps more - as they did during the period that terminated in the early twenties.

More grocery stores have opened, and though they have not nearly approached the business prosperity of the horse-and-buggy days, a higher proportion of the groceries consumed are purchased locally. Apparently there is a greater change in the marketing of foodstuffs than in hardware and certain other lines of merchandise. According to grocers, they have felt the impact of chain-store methods.

Business in the past has been a strong integrating force in the rural community. Not only did it bring the farm families to a central meeting place and set the stage for social activities, but it also brought the town and country people together. Individuals will congregate for business reasons more easily than for purely social activities. Then the latter naturally develop as byproducts of simple aggregations.

The people of Shell Rock value quality of goods and in their purchases insist upon quality. In general, their measure of quality seems to be price and national advertising. They have not become "bargain hunters" to the extent that most city people of approximately the same income groups have. The preference in mechanical refrigerators is definitely for the more expensive models of two nationally advertised brands averaging well over \$200 each. The more modestly priced brands have made little impression. Radios also are of nationally advertised brands. Even when buying small or "second" radios they pay about \$20 rather than about half that amount for other cheaper brands which are common in city homes.

The proprietor of one of the hardware stores said that some years ago he handled a modestly priced and relatively unknown brand of bottled-gas stove and did not make any sales. The other dealer sold quite a few of a better known and more expensive brand. Last year the first dealer put in a widely advertised brand and sold a large number while the cheaper brand, very similar in appearance and construction, remained on the floor.

It appears that the people of Shell Rock are much influenced by the national advertising of slick-paper magazines. Practically all the homes regularly receive The Ladies Home Journal, McCall's, Wallace's Farmer, and The Woman's Home Companion. Other magazines common in the community are The American Magazine, Good Housekeeping, Liberty, The Saturday Evening Post and True Romance. These magazines are important in the life of the people. Apparently the high price paid by the advertisers brings the results they want by influencing the purchase of their products. In addition to the journals listed, several small, cheap magazines come to every home. So far as can be determined they do not make much impression upon the people nor influence their behavior.

A daily newspaper - the Waterloo Courier, the Des Moines Register, or sometimes both - comes to practically every home. The newspapers, supplemented by the radio, keep the farmer conscious of the world outside and are probably



effective factors in the destruction of ruralism. They are also important in keeping him acquainted with prices in the cities. In this respect they are partially responsible for the decline of the local grocery business. While the farmer wants nationally advertised goods and is willing to pay their price, he will not pay even 1 cent per can more for the same advertised brand of beans at Shell Rock than in Waverly, 7 miles farther away. The larger town also has the added attraction of giving the family a chance to go to the movies.

In conclusion, then, it may be said that the Shell Rock farmer wants products which are nationally advertised and for which he is willing to pay the advertised price set by the manufacturer. If he cannot afford such items, he will go without them rather than substitute less well-known products, and run the risk of losing local prestige. As nearly as can be determined, a woman who says, "No, we do not have an electric ice box but we are going to get one," (and then names one of the preferred nationally advertised models) enjoys a higher prestige than one who tells her friends that she has one from a mail-order house. But when the advertiser does not set the price upon his product, the Shell Rock farmer will go several miles to buy from the cheaper retailer.

#### FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION

Before the last decade the financial organization of the community centered in the banks of the village. With the disorganization of these institutions a strong integrating influence was destroyed. Practically all the community did their banking business in the village. The bankers, powerful but seemingly benevolent, enjoyed a high social status. Their advice was sought by farmer and townsman alike. Their intimate knowledge of the individuals and their financial position gave them a strong influence over the behavior of the citizens. A man who possessed the characteristics most valued by the community could depend upon financial assistance in time of need. Those who did not possess them would find themselves without sympathy when in a tight pinch. The banker was in line with local public opinion and often, when a loan was made suggested that the recipient buy his groceries in a local store and not go to so many shows and saloons. With the passing of the local banker went the institutionalized leader and an important unifying force of the community.

#### NONCOMMERCIAL VALUES

When the first settlers came to Shell Rock, they built substantial houses and outbuildings from native lumber. They planted orchards, shade trees, and shrubbery, kept their lawns clipped, and built fences around their door-yards. The premises were kept clean and orderly. Here was a group seeking homes and working at things which gave them no financial returns but paid for themselves in a better and fuller life. To these people agriculture was a mode of life not devoid of beauty and serenity and orderliness of their own making. They had their virtues of honesty, frugality, industry, dependability, and neighborliness.

Then in the early 1900's came commercialism and the new values placed on commercial products which were acquired with money - many of the old homely values disappeared. Agriculture became an undesirable business to be practiced by those who could not succeed in other and more desirable enterprises. Nearly everyone looked upon farming as a temporary business from which, if he worked



hard, he might be able to retire in late middle age and "start living." Emphasis was placed upon the acquisition of money with which he could buy his freedom. At this time the wants for material products of industry expanded and superseded the old wants. Houses and outbuildings were permitted to slip into disrepair as the farm was exploited for money profits. The premises became untidy as the emphasis was placed upon things which money bought.

The farmer reasoned that he worked so hard he did not have time to keep up the place. Actually his life and his wife's were becoming easier. The riding gang plow and cultivator had been developed; horses had replaced the slower oxen. His wife's housework was lightened by new household inventions. It should be pointed out, however, that his livestock, milk cows, hogs, and chickens were increased so that he had more chores than the first settlers had.

That period seems to be drawing to a close. Some of the old noncommercial values are returning and new ones are being developed. A few of them are discussed below.

(1) The idea that agriculture is a way of life is being developed again. In the last 10 years fewer expressed desires to retire and go to California are heard. More trees have been nursed through the critical period of their youth. Trees planted through the preceding period were choked out by weeds, were not given the necessary support to prevent their breakage by wind, and were not sufficiently protected from rabbits and livestock. More lawns are now kept up and the livestock is kept out. Houses, especially kitchens, are being remodeled and electricity, running water, and other labor-saving devices installed.

(2) One of the noncommercial things valued most highly in Shell Rock is that of keeping the women's good appearance. The three beauty shops are all apparently well patronized by farm women who regularly get their hair waved as well as having other "beauty treatments." They attempt to keep their hands soft by using mild soaps and lotions. They diet to preserve their figures and dress in the current fashions. Most of the women in the community are as well groomed as the women of comparable economic status in the city.

(3) A clean, moderately new automobile is greatly valued. Frequently new ones are bought when the old one is still in relatively good condition.

(4) Dress of a type which does not distinguish them from other occupational groups is considered very important. Neither the average farmer nor his wife appears different from city people. Those who do not conform to this custom are spoken of disparagingly because of their "poor taste" in clothes.

(5) Cleanliness of both person and property is highly valued in both men and women and the lack of it is severely criticized.

(6) The best schooling opportunities for children are demanded by the community. The greater part of the community is in a large consolidated district which provides a good 12-grade school system and free transportation to and from school. Children in the district who leave school before graduation from high school are severely criticized, as are their parents.



(7) Children are considered more desirable by the young generation than they were by the previous generation who loved their children but looked upon them somewhat as calamities. Now those in the younger generation seem to be having more children and apparently deliberately.

(8) Organized competitive sport in the school, especially basketball, is valued. The contests are attended by a large part of the community.

### CONCLUSION

From the trend of changes noted above, it is evident that the development of a new agricultural mode of life for the Corn Belt has been rapid. The report of the original study made in 1931 was read by many people in Iowa and adjoining Corn Belt States. Without exception they reported that the description of the Shell Rock culture was representative of their own communities. If Shell Rock was typical of the Corn Belt at that time, it is reasonable to believe that trends similar to those observed now will be found throughout the region.

The present study uncovered indications of some of the characteristics of the Corn Belt of the future:

(1) An intelligent recognition, by the people themselves, of the local problems and a willingness to work together to solve them through democratic action.

(2) A mode of life that centers around the recognition of agriculture as a desirable business rather than around rural mannerisms.

(3) The development of farm practices that will insure a permanent agriculture.

(4) A recognition of the factors involved in price determination; adherence to both governmental and individual attempts to adjust agriculture to these factors rather than to fixed prices.

There will probably be many other changes which cannot be predicted from this study. But it does appear certain that the people of this region are forming a new agricultural mode of life that is still in harmony with the traditions of American democracy.

### CENSUS OF CURRENT RESEARCH IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY

SUBJECT : STATE : INSTITUTION : LEADER

#### Population and Migration

Interstate Migration, U.S., 1929-30	Ala.	Univ.	Geisert
Population Trends and Adjustments	Ark.	AES	Metzler
Urban Adjustments of Rural Migrants	Ark.	AES	Metzler
Movement of Population into Arizona Since January 1930	Ariz.	BAE	McEntire

SUBJECT

:STATE:INSTITUTION:LEADER

Quarantine Station County of Auto Parties Entering Arizona	Ariz.	BAE	McEntire
Changes in Farm Population, 1939	Colo.	AES*	Roskelley
People of 5 Colorado Counties	Colo.	AES*	Roskelley
People of Georgia	Ga.	Inst. for study of Ga. prob.	Young
Economic and Sociological Study of Recent Settlement on Cut-Over Land, Northern Idaho	Idaho	AES*	Eke
Relation Between Extent of Soil Fertility Depletion and Erosion, and the Movement and Character of Population in Illinois	Ill.	AES	Lindstrom
Estimate of Farm Pop. and Pop. Movements	Iowa	AES*	Wakeley
Population Aspects of County Planning, Warren Co.	Iowa	AES*	Wakeley
Estimate of Farm Pop. and Pop. Movements	Kans.	AES*	Hill
Population Data, 105 Kansas Counties	Kan.	BAE	Standing
Selected Sociological Factors in Relation to Agr. Planning, Nemaha County	Kan.	BAE	Longmore
Movement to and from Farms in Kentucky	Ky.	AES*	Oyler
Population Trends in Kentucky Since 1860	Ky.	AES	Oyler
Investigation of Vital Processes in La.	La.	AES	Smith
Analysis of Population: Its Composition and Changes	La.	AES	Smith
Estimate of Farm Pop. and Farm Pop. Movements	La.	AES*	Smith
Nature of Population Movements into and within Mississippi Delta of Louisiana	La.	BAE	Hitt
Differential Ages of Marriage of White and Negro Population in Urban and Rural Areas, Caddo Parish	La.	Wiley Coll.	Cox
Rural Pop. Migration, Garrett and Somerset Cos.	Md.	Univ.*	Dodson
Farm Population Estimates	Minn.	AES*	Nelson
Distribution and Mobility, Rural & Urban Pop.	Minn.	AES	Nelson
Socio-Economic Status, Farm-Reared Factory and Farm Women	Miss.	AES	Dickins
Yazoo, Miss., Backwater Areas	Miss.	BAE	Hoffsommer
Relationship of Pop. to Econ., Social, Physical Factors, Montana (Subproject)	Mont.	AES	Kraenzel
Population Trends	N.Mex.	A&M	Johansen and Cockerill
Estimates of Farm Population and Farm Popu- lation movements	N.Mex.	A&M*	Fite
Selective Factors in Rural-Urban Migration	N.Y.	AES*	Sanderson
Causes for Growth and Decline of Population Agr. Villages	N.Y.	Columbia Univ.*	Brunner and Lorge
Farm Pop. and Farm Pop. Movements	N.D.	AES*	Novak
Rural Population Movement and Land Use	N.D.	AES	Hay and Hellebust
Movements of Farm Population, Ohio, July 1939 to January 1940	Ohio	Univ.*	Mangus
Analysis of Population Movements, Ross County	Ohio	AES*	Mangus



SUPPLEMENT TO  
PERSONNEL IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY:  
TEACHERS, RESEARCH WORKERS, EXTENSION WORKERS

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Bell, Earl H. - R  
Lyall, Lawrence B. - R  
Greiner, Harold L. - R

Anderson, Anton H. - R  
Anderson, Olaf C. - R  
McNamara, Robert L. - R

Amarillo, Texas - Masonic Temple Bldg. - Area II

Standing, T. G. - R  
Longmore, T. Wilson - R

Rossoff, Milton - R

Milwaukee, Wisconsin - County Court House - Area III

Frame, Nat T. - R  
Losey, J. Edwin - R

Forsyth, F. Howard - R  
McMurray, J. Donald - R

Upper Darby, Pennsylvania - Center Bldg. - Area IV

McKain, Walter C., Jr. - R  
Galloway, Robert E. - R  
Clowes, Harry G. - R

Draper, Charles R. - R  
Meldrum, Gilbert - R

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Holt, John B. - R

Matthews, M. Taylor - R

Little Rock, Arkansas - 244 Donaghey Bldg. - Area VI

Hoffsommer, Harold C. - R  
Pryor, Herbert - R  
Shafer, Karl A. - R

Nichols, Ralph R. - R  
Jolley, Udell, - R

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Fuller, Varden - R  
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Utah

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America



SUBJECT	STATE	INSTITUTION	LEADER
Migration and Natural Increase of Population	Okla.	AES*	Duncan
Out-of-School Rural Youth in Pa.	Pa.	AES	Anderson
Population and Land Relationships in a Unified County	R.I.	AES*	Gordon
Inventory of Rural Population	R.I.	AES	Gordon
Population Composition and Trends, Greenville County	S.C.	Furman Univ.	Hutchinson
Mobility in Farming Occupation	S.C.	AES	Williams
Social History of Pop. Settlement, S.D.	S.D.	AES	Kumlien
Annual Changes of Population	S.D.	AES*	Kumlien
Effect of Industrial Development on Pop. Changes	Tenn.	AES	Allred
Community Adaptation to Population Changes, Beaverdam, Virginia	Va.	AES	Edwards
Rural Pop. Trends in Relation to Natural Resources in Washington.	Wash.	AES	Reuss & Landis
Estimate of Farm Pop. and Farm Pop. Movements	Wash.	AES*	Landis
Population Analysis, Lewis County	W. Va.	BAE	McKain
Northern Great Plains Migration	Area I	BAE	Hay
Land Settlement Problems and Policies in the Pacific Coast States	Area VII	BAE	McEntire
<u>Rural Youth</u>			
Youth Problems in Relation to Types of Farming	Colo.	AES	Roskelley
Older Rural Youth Problems	Ind.	BAE	Frame
Student Leadership	Iowa	AES	Anderson
Study of Rural Youth, 15 to 29 Years of Age	N. D.	AES*	Hay
Adjustment of Rural Youth to Farm & Home Life	Ohio	Univ.	Malinovsky
Rural Youth Study	Va.	VPI	Edwards
<u>Community Organization</u>			
Comm. Organization & Leadership, Chilton Co.	Ala.	State Col.	Sanders
Families Relocated from Tuskegee LU Dem. Project	Ala.	Tuskegee*	Gomillion
Comm. Org. and Leadership, Lee Co.	Ala.	BAE	Holt
Social Data Relating to LU Planning, FSA Records	Ala.	BAE	Holt
Relation of Wealth and Accessibility to School Participation	Ark.	AES	Charlton
Resettlement Communities in Arkansas	Ark.	AES	Charlton
Population and Community Aspects of LU Planning, Yell County	Ark.	AES*	Charlton & Metzler
Polish Communities	Conn.	BAE	McKain
Effect of Application of Urban Cultural Standards in Rural Communities	Fla.	State Prison	Chapman
Participation of Farm People in Organizations	Ill.	AES	Lindstrom
Rural Cultural Arts	Iowa	Ind. So. Res.Inst.	Wakeley
Effectiveness of Rural Organizations, Greene Co. Iowa	Iowa	AES	Wakeley

SUBJECT	STATE	INSTITUTION	LEADER
Study of Selected Villages	Iowa	AES	Wakeley
Rural Comm. Org. in Selected Communities	Ky.	AES	Oyler
Determination of Local Area Units for LU Planning	Ky.	AES*	Williams
Participant Observer Study of Greenbelt, Md.	Md.	Univ.*	Dodson
An Approach to a Rural Org. Index for Maryland Counties	Md.	Univ.	Dodson
Comm. Org. as Vehicle in Expediting Agr. LU Planning	Md.	Ext.*	Dodson
Origin and Evolution of American Community	Mass.	Harvard	Zimmerman
Cheboygan: Comm. Adaptations to Population Changes	Mich.	AES	Gibbard
Social Factors in County Planning, Carlton, Kanabec, and Beltrami Counties	Minn.	AES*	Nelson
Community Org. in Relation to LU Planning, Covington Co.	Miss.	AES*	Hoffsommer
County and Local Planning, Boone, Calloway, Wayne	Mo.	AES*	Lively
Organization Analyses, Atlantic Co.	N.J.	BAE	McKain
Membership of Farmers' Organizations	N.Y.	AES	Anderson
Social Participation of Rural Families	N.Y.	AES	Anderson
Social Organization of N.Y. Rural Communities	N.Y.	AES	Sanderson
Diagnosing Rural Community Organizations	N.Y.	BAE	Ensminger
Types of Families Residing on Marginal and Sub-marginal Land	N.Y.	AES*	Anderson
Comm. Adjustments, Red River Valley Infiltration Project	N.D.	AES	Johansen
LU Planning as Affected by Community Organization and Leadership	N.D.	AES*	Hay
Community and County Social Planning, Hand Co.	S.D.	AES*	Kumlien
Cooperative Organizations in Tenn.	Tenn.	AES	Allred
Negro Farmers in the Dynamics of Southern Agriculture	Tenn.	Fiske	Hubert
Studies of Utah Towns and Villages	Utah	AES	Geddes
Rural Community Studies	Va.	AES	Garnett
Lebanon: A Virginia Community	Va.	AES	Tate
Organizations and Institutions, 8 Communities, Culpeper County	Va.	BAE	Ensminger
Factors and Forces Moulding Community Life	Va.	VPI	Burr
Rural Social Institutions	Wash.	State Col.	Reuss
Economic Situation, Social Adjustment, and Future Prospects, New Settlers in Yakima Valley	Wash.	BAE	McEntire
Trends in Group Organization	Wisc.	AES*	Wildden
Families Relocated from 5 LU Demon. Proj.	Area V	BAE	Holt
Families Displaced by Land-Purchase Program	Area II	BAE	Standing
Sociological Data on LU Schedules, 1936	Area II	BAE	Standing
Families Displaced by Land-Purchase Program	Area V	BAE	Holt
Analysis of Subsistence Homesteads Projects	U.S.	BAE	Taylor



SUBJECT	STATE	INSTITUTION	LEADER
<u>Standards of Living</u>			
Health Services and Costs in Certain Rural Areas of Arkansas	Ark.	AES	Wilson & Metzler
Use of Live-at-home Resources	Fla.	AES*	Matthews
Social Data Relating to LU Planning, FSA Records, Greene County	Ga.	BAE	Holt
Family Adjustments	Iowa	AES	Anderson
Consumer Purchases in Selected Areas	Md.	Univ.	Joslyn
Measuring the Degree of Want Satisfaction, Farm, Village, and Urban Families	Minn.	AES	Nelson
Clothing for White Farm Families Living in Poor and Rich Agr. Communities	Miss.	AES	Dickins
Cost of Living on the Farm: Comparison of Owner-operated and Rented Farms	Mo.	AES	Hammer
Relation between Standard of Living and Soil Types	Neb.	AES	Snyder
Sociology of the Rural Family	N.Y.	AES	Cottrell
Cooperative Research Work in Connection with Agricultural LU Planning, Caswell Co.	N.C.	BAE	Holt
Levels of Living, Pop. Movements, and Social Adjustment	Ohio	Univ.*	Mangus & Cottam
Present Situation and Future Prospects of Recent Settlers, Vale and Owyhee Projects	Oregon	BAE	McEntire
Farm Housing in Four Counties of S.C.	S.C.	AES	Williams
Socio-Economic Conditions in Relation to Educational Opportunities, Selected Rural Areas	S.C.	AES	Fulmer & Williams
Significance of Structural Family Characteristics	S.C.	Furman	Blackwell
Farm Housing in 4 Selected Counties	S.C.	AES*	Williams
Farm Versus Village Living	Utah	AES	Geddes
Causes of High Degree of Marginality in Rural Population	Va.	VPI	Garnett
Analysis of Records of FSA Clients, Region XII	Area II	BAE	Standing
Farm Record Study	Area II	BAE	Standing

Farm Labor

Variations in Share-Renting and Share-Cropping Arrangements	South	BAE	Ham
Arizona's Migratory Farm Labor	Ariz.	AES*	Tetreau
Casual and Migratory Farm Labor	Ark.	AES	Charlton
Share Croppers and Wage Laborers in Arkansas	Ark.	AES*	McNeeley
Housing Conditions, Work Patterns, and Related Problems of Sugar Beet Laborers	Colo.	AES	Roskelley
Industrial Work for Wages off the Farm	Ga.	BAE	Holt
Harvest Labor Use	Kan.	BAE	Folsom
Strawberry Pickers, Hammond, La.	La.	AES	Hoffsommer

SUBJECT

: STATE : : INSTITUTION : LEADER

Transient Laborers in Selected Agr. Industries	Mich.	State Col.	Thaden
Social Aspects of the Sugar Beet Industry	Mont.	AES	Kraenzel
Harvest Labor	N.D.	AES*	Hay
Migratory Farm Labor	Oregon	Reed Coll.	Opler
Share Croppers & Wage Laborers in South Carolina	S.C.	AES*	Holcomb
Social and Econ. Aspects of Farm Labor	Wash.	State Coll.	Landis & Reuss

Farm Tenure

Farm Leases under Irrigation	Ariz.	AES*	Tetreau
Sugar Cane Tenancy and Labor	La.	AES	Hoffsommer
Tenancy Area Study	La.	AES	Hoffsommer
Delimiting Types of Tenancy Area; Present Tenancy Situation	La.	BAE	Hoffsommer
Social Correlatives of Farm Tenure	La.	BAE	Hoffsommer
Land Tenure and its Relation to Land Use	Neb.	AES*	Garey
Plantation Societies Around the World	N.C.	Duke	Thompson
The Southern Plantation System	N.C.	Duke	Thompson
Social Aspects of Partnership Farming	N.D.	AES	Hay
Social Correlatives of Farm Tenure Status	Okla.	AES	Sewell
Delimiting Types of Tenancy Area	Okla.	AES*	Duncan
Cotton Tenancy and Share-cropping in the South	Tenn.	Fiske	Johnson
Peasant Proprietorship in Denmark	Tenn..	Fiske	Hubert
Econ. Significance of Different Farm Leasing Systems	Tex.	BAE	Hamilton
Trends in Farm Tenancy and Farm Labor	Tex.	BAE	Hoffsommer
The Negro Land Owner in Texas	Tex.	State Normal	Norris

Rural Rehabilitation and Dependency

Progress of Rehabilitation Clients	Ark.	AES	Metzler
Social Indices of Human Welfare	Ill.	AES	Lindstrom
Rural Relief	Ill.	AES	Lindstrom
Old Age Assistance	Iowa	AES	Wakeley
Factors Affecting Social Well-Being of Rural People: Relief & Non-relief, 1933	Kan.	AES*	Hill
Factors Affecting Social Well-Being of Rural People: Changes in Rural Relief Pop.	Kan.	AES*	Hill
Administration of Public Relief, Selected Rural Counties	Mich.	State Coll.	Harper & Gibson
Stump-Land Settlement, Flathead County	Mon.	BAE	Hay
Relief History, Boone County	Neb.	BAE	Hay
Composition and Characteristics of Rural Relief Households, 8 Counties	S.C.	AES	Williams
Family Relationships and Community Backgrounds of Dependent Children	S.D.	AES	Woolbert
Standard-of-Living Levels of FSA Standard Loan Cases, 1936	S.D.	AES	Kumlien



SUBJECT	STATE	INSTITUTION	LEADER
Study of FSA Standard Loan Clients	U.S.	BAE	Larson
Disadvantaging Factors in the Life of Rural Virginia Negroes	Va.	State Col. for Negroes	Roberts
Study of Rural Relief with Reference to Rural Rehabilitation in Wisconsin	Wis.	AES	Hill
Grant Certification Mapping Project	Area I	BAE	Hay
<u>Rural Social Psychology</u>			
Attitudes Toward Farming by Vocational Pupils	Ala.	Tuskegee	Floyd
Habits and Attitude Complexes of Arkansas Farmers	Ark.	AES	Metzler
Effects of Farm Tenancy on Childhood	Fla.	State Prison	Chapman
Social Aspects of County Planning, Adair Co.	Iowa	AES*	Ryan
Local Participation in LU Planning	Ky.	AES*	Williams
Social Stratification of Two Louisiana Cotton-Growing Communities	La.	LSU	Schuler
County Committee Membership	Me.	BAE	Hulett
Effectiveness of Different Methods of Introducing New Agr. Practices to Dutch Farm Pop.	Mich.	State Coll.	Hoffer, et al.
Sociological Factors Affecting Degree of Responsiveness to Agr. Extension Work	Mich.	State Coll.	Hoffer, et al.
Family Life of Rural Couples in Relation to Their Similarities and Differences in Personality and Temperament	Neb.	AES	Stott
Comparative Study of Young People from Farm, Village, and City Homes	Neb.	AES	Stott
Social Attitudes of Rural People	N.Y.	AES	Cottrell
Negro Life and Attitudes in Greenville, S. C.	S.C.	Furman	Drake
Functional Relations between Home Conditions and Social Conformity in Behavior in a Southern Textile Community	S.C.	Furman	Edwards
Rote Learning and the Cultural Environment of Rural Negroes	Tenn.	Fiske	Johnson
Growing up in the Black Belt: Personality Development of Southern Rural Negro Youth	Tenn.	Fiske	Johnson
<u>Rural Cultural Anthropology</u>			
Ethnic Factors in Connecticut Agriculture	Conn.	AES	Whetten
Rates of Social Change in Rural Ky.	Ky.	AES	Beers
Immigrant Groups in Rural Michigan.	Mich.	State Col.	Honigsheim
Relation of Folk Culture to Soil Conservation and Land Use	Mo.	AES	Nelson
New Frontiers on the Plains	Mon.	AES	Kraenzel
Changing Culture Patterns and Social Attitudes	Wash.	State Col.	Landis,
Nationality Backgrounds as Culture-Types	Wisc.	Univ.	Hill & Kolb
Cultural, Structural, and Social-Psychological Study of Selected American Farm Communities	U.S.	BAE	Taylor

SUBJECT

: STATE: INSTITUTION: LEADER

Land Use Planning

Population Trends in Relation to LU Planning	Ala.	BAE	Holt
Social Factors Related to Soil Erosion, Scantic River Valley	Conn.	AES	Hypes
Social Aspects of Land Use	Ill.	AES	Lindstrom
Population and Community Aspects of County Planning, Lincoln Parish	La.	AES*	Hoffsommer
Social Aspects of Land Utilization, Selected Cos.	Mich.	AES	Nelson
Sociological Aspects of Sub-Minimum Sized Farm Units, Teton County	Mon.	AES*	Kraenzel
Land Utilization Programs and Farm Family Living	N.D.	AES	Greenlaw
Social Conditions Related to LU Planning, Hand Co.	S.D.	AES*	Kumlien
Relation of Various Social Factors to Land Class	Tenn.	AES	Allred
A Sociologist's Contribution to Co. Planning	Wis.	AES	Hill

Regional Studies

Social Sub-Areas of Kentucky	Ky.	AES	Beers
Rural Social Areas	Minn.	AES	Nelson
Relation between the Characteristics of Rural Schools and Rural Cultural Areas	Mo.	Univ.	Almack
Analysis of the Group-of-Counties Subregion	N.C.	Univ.	Odum
Study of South Carolina by Counties	S.C.	AES	Williams
Economic and Social Problems, Highland Area	Tenn.	AES	Allred & Bonser

Recreation

Use of Recreation Sites Developed on Some Federal Land Purchase Areas	Me.	BAE	McKain
Utilization of Umbarger Recreational Pro- jects, Buffalo Lake	Tex.	BAE	Standing
Recreational Facilities	Area IV	BAE	McKain

Miscellaneous

Forms of Property in Farm Estates and Rural-Urban Division by Inheritance	Ariz.	AES*	Tetreau
Operation of Group Medical Programs	Ark.	AES	Charlton
Farm Tenancy Backgrounds of Juvenile Delinquency in the South	Fla.	State Col. for Women	Shankweiler
Father and Son Farm Partnership	Mich.	AES	Hill
Rural Health Facilities and Cost of Medical Care, Lewis County	Mo.	Univ.	Almack
Transmission of Farming as an Occupation	N.Y.	AES	Anderson
Group Relationship in Cooperative Marketing of Wheat	N.D.	AES	Greenlaw & Novak



SUBJECT	STATE	INSTITUTION	LEADER
Part-time Farming in Rhode Island	R.I.	AES	Gordon
Effects of Urban Industrial Influences upon an Outlying Area	R.I.	AES	Gordon
Relations between Occupation, Tenure, Mobility, and School Achievement in Open Country and Village Communities, Piedmont	S.C.	Furman	Blackwell & McCuen
Basic Trends of Social Change	S.D.	AES	Kumlien
Social History of Swedish Agriculture	Va.	Univ.	Freund
Community Service Areas and Social Composition of 18 Selected Rural High Schools	Wis.	Univ.	Kolb & Bankert
Influences of Church Affiliation upon the Social Homogeneity of Selected Nationality Groups	Wis.	Univ.	Hill & Smith

\* In cooperation with Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

## RESEARCH REPORTS

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### Community Relationships and Institutions 1/

"Social Relationships and Institutions in Seven New Rural Communities" (2) not only lays down a "starting line" that may serve as a basis from which future changes in social participation may be measured but also records some findings which will be useful in the administration and planning of rural community settlements. Families who had moved least and who had more often participated in the formal social agencies of their old communities more frequently remained on the projects. Settlers who held offices in the old communities came to be recognized as leaders in the new situations on the projects more frequently than those who previous to resettlement had not been leaders.

The informal social and economic life of families on the projects differed considerably from that to which they had been accustomed in the communities of previous residence. For example, a larger proportion of the project families borrowed and exchanged work during the year of study than in communities of previous residence. This increased cooperation may be accounted for in part by the shorter distances between the homes of associating families. As is common in pioneer situations, those who had little equipment and insufficient funds to hire labor resorted to mutual aid. Project officials encouraged such cooperation. That the new communities do not lack the intimacy and familiarity of the average rural group, despite the fact that such bonds as kinship are less common, is indicated by the extent to which the family as a whole enters the relationship.

At Dyess Colony, from which 40 percent of the families moved during 1936-38, a special study was made of the reasons for leaving. The decisions of

1/ Complete citations will be found in the bibliography, beginning on page.



the settlers to move were made in social settings in which small "in-groups" played an important role. It was found that some of these small groups exaggerated the disadvantages of living on the project, refused to listen to the counsel of individuals who believed in the venture, and moved away to become sharecroppers and laborers again. Other groups seemed to discount false and exaggerated rumors about the disadvantages of the project, prices charged by consumer-cooperatives, objectionable characteristics of leasing and property arrangements, and the like. Local forums and discussion groups have been suggested as a means of spreading facts about the projects. The report also suggests that the number of disparaging rumors could be reduced if the administering agency could make all policies as definite as possible from the beginning.

### Population

The report "Wilton: A Rural Town Near Metroplitan New York" (32) is based principally upon personal interviews with 881 households constituting 95 percent of the total population of Wilton, a town which has changed rapidly from a predominantly agricultural community outside New York City to a rural residential area. Migration to the community has been wave-like in pattern: artists tended to come during one period, stockbrokers during another, writers during another. The reasons people gave for moving to Wilton were: "advantages offered to children by the local school and open country; lower taxes; and accessibility of Wilton to cities, combined with a rural New England setting." Also indicated was the wish to "escape" from social life and to live apart from the local community. Nearly one-half of those gainfully employed are commuters; 3 out of 10 commute to New York City, 55 miles away, which may take 2 to 3 hours each day. Slightly more than one-half of the commuters use the railroad; the remainder use automobiles.

Almost one-half of the residents engage in farming activities but most of this is of a "hobby" or recreational nature. Although the average household maintains 3.4 organizational memberships, more than half of these are outside the community. Less than half of the householders were church members -the churches were non-local five times out eight.

The "Natural Increase and Migration of Kentucky Population: 1920 to 1935," (34) as revealed by analysis of census data for rural farm, rural non-farm and urban people of both the white and the black races, have been described by means of maps and exposition. Seven rural eastern counties would double in population within 24 to 33 years if no migration occurred. Where urban population was concentrated rates of growth were lower. Only recently developed urban coal-mining areas, stocked by new arrivals from the farms, did not have far lower rates of natural growth than rural areas. Partly because the Negro population of Kentucky is relatively more urban and partly because of a relatively lower rate of increase in all residence groups, it is barely self-maintaining. If there were no out migration, Kentucky's population would double in 77 years. Except for the coal-mining counties, migration out was positively correlated with rate of natural increase. "Because the counties having the highest index of natural increase and the heaviest emigration also have the smallest economic resources, these counties are handicapped in the provision of adequate health, educational, and cultural facilities for that part of their population which will later migrate to cities and wealthier rural areas."



According to "Farm-City Migration and Industry's Labor Reserve," (17) a report which attempts to use library census materials to analyze rural-urban migration, problems of industry and agriculture have undergone a merging process. "Even should its productive efficiency level off, agriculture could not during the next 25 years provide place for more than a fifth of the expected excess of births over deaths in rural regions. Furthermore, its population increase is concentrated in exactly those regions where pressure is at present greatest."

"They represent a reserve for industry which will be extensively tapped, if ever, only when industrial demand for labor mounts far beyond that which can be met by the existence force plus the other reserves. These groups together constitute a substantial proportion of those who now represent our unemployment and relief problem. All find themselves caught between the pressure conditions on the land and in the cities."

"Migration and Social Welfare" (59) deals primarily with the problem of the nonsettled persons in the community. While it is concerned chiefly with the discrepancy between the effects of migration and "the theory apparently underlying social legislation that all persons live out their lives in the communities of their birth," it deals with the whole range of migration in the United States. In brief chapters it summarizes the history of that migration giving special attention to the depression decade and the Federal transient program. Most of the book is concerned with the problems arising when the migrant enters the community, and with provisions of assistance - public and private. There is a discussion of numerous proposals and experiments that have been started. A final chapter deals with the problems of developing a national policy that would utilize fully the efforts of both public and private agencies. There is a topical bibliography on Interstate Migration.

### Levels of Living

Families who lived in six villages of Vermont reported cash living expenditures of \$1,461, according to an analysis (53) of records selected from those taken by personal interview in 1936 as a part of the nation-wide Consumer Purchases Study. Costs were distributed on a percentage basis as follows: food, 30; household operations, 14; housing, 13; automobile, 11; clothing, 8; medical care and recreation, 4 each; furniture and gifts, 3 each; personal care and tobacco, 2 each; reading matter, education, taxes, and miscellany, 1 each.

### Relief and Rehabilitation

The following conclusions, presented in "Educational Foundations for Rural Rehabilitation," (31) are based upon data collected for the Survey of Current Changes in Rural Relief Population in Colorado in 1935, including data for some 9,000 members of households who were recipients of relief.

(1) Heads of rural relief households completed an average of 6.6 school grades. (2) The average schooling completed by heads of households who were beet laborers was only 3.5 grades. (3) Less than average educational attainment of adults in any occupational or color group seems to be paralleled by a similarly low average educational attainment of their children. (4) The pro-



portion of school children who may be thought of as educationally retarded increases with age and by the time the average school children of rural relief households reach 15 years, approximately 75 percent are below what may be considered normal achievement. (5) Heads of households which were under 25 years of age completed more school grades than any older age group.

"Rural Unemployed Not Receiving Assistance," (15) is a survey of rural and town families who, at the time of the study, had been certified as in need of but were awaiting employment in 10 southern counties, and rural families having members registered at a public employment office in 10 northern and western counties. The unemployed needy in the South fared much worse than those in the North and West. Crop and wage reduction, mechanization, and curtailment of non-farm wage-earning opportunities caused Work Projects Administration rolls in the South to mount. Even so, during the winter of 1938-39 an estimated 500,000 needy rural families in 13 southern States were without public assistance . . . . Nearly 20 percent of those whose usual occupation was farming were completely displaced from agriculture in 1939. Of these displaced farmers more than three-fifths had lost their farms after the 1938 crop. Most of the others were displaced in 1937 with a few accounted for as far back as 1935.

#### Farm Labor and Tenancy

"Recent Changes in Farm Labor Organization in Three Arkansas Plantation Counties," (28) are revealed in a field study of 89 plantations with an average of 1,039 acres and 23 resident families, of which 17 were sharecroppers, 3 were share renters, and 3 were wage laborers. Although cotton acreage decreased 21 percent and the number of tractors increased 69 percent, the average number of resident families decreased only 6 percent from 1932 to 1937. This relatively small decline is due to the fact that chopping and picking cotton have not been mechanized and operators fear labor shortages for those operations.

The most important change in plantation labor organization was that occasioned by the shift from sharecroppers to wage hands who have a relatively low level of living. The social participation of both groups is centered in the church but high mobility is associated with low social participation and levels of living. About 40 percent of all occupancies were for one year, and about 60 percent did not exceed two years. Moves were usually for short distances, 62 percent involving less than 8 miles.

Oklahoma ranks sixth among the States in proportion of tenancy, with 61.2 percent in 1935 according to the report, "Farm Tenancy in Oklahoma," (43) based upon census and other secondary sources. As compared with owner-operators, tenants plant a smaller proportion of their land to legumes, have less pasture and livestock, plant more intertilled crops, and terrace a great deal less land. Tenants tend to foster the depletion of soil fertility more than do owners.

A recent study of farm tenancy in Pennsylvania (46) deals with attitudes of tenants toward their problems, kinds of leases commonly used, and means of improving unsatisfactory leasing arrangements. Questionnaires sent to 5,000



tenants listed four disadvantages and five advantages to be checked if important to the tenant receiving the blank. In the 530 replies advantages were checked almost twice as often as disadvantages which, in view of attitudes of tenants recorded by other studies, indicates to the reviewer that selection in the returns was important in this study. The only disadvantage that was indicated by more than 40 percent of those replying was "unwillingness on the part of landlords to provide conveniences and proper living conditions for the tenants." Personal interviews to determine prevailing leasing arrangements and to suggest needed adjustments were obtained on 208 tenant-operated farms scattered throughout the State.

### Rural Youth

"Rural Youth in North Carolina," (41) between the ages of 15 and 29, inclusive, who leave rural for urban areas have more formal education than those who remain. Also, "there is a tendency for the better educated individuals to go into non-farm occupations." If youth do not find employment in the cities, the rural communities will have to bear the burden of supporting surplus members and must develop a more satisfying community life. At present there is a "lack of organization to fit the specific needs of young adults of the out-of-school group." As a source of formal social contacts among rural youths the church ranks first, the school second. These young people, who constitute a larger proportion of the State's population than in any other State except South Carolina, have been handicapped in the past by inadequate educational facilities for those who need practical training and cannot complete the standard academic curriculum. These and other conclusions resulted from a field investigation based upon personal interviews with 731 households in three selected areas in North Carolina.

"Youth in Agricultural Villages," (18) declined in number from 1930 to 1936, a trend that stands in contrast to that of youth on farms. A survey of youth living in 45 agricultural villages in June 1936 and of youth who left these villages and settled elsewhere gives evidence of high mobility in this segment of the population. Almost one-half of all young men and more than one-third of all unmarried young women in the villages who were out of school had moved at least once (excluding residential changes within any specified village) since becoming 16 years of age. A surplus of young women in contrast to young men indicates that agricultural villages are concentration points for young women in rural territory.

By way of contrast and comparison with the youth living in the agricultural villages at the time of the survey, 3,400 youth who had achieved economic independence away from the villages were studied. Urban centers attracted a larger proportion of the young women than of the young men, and marriage appeared to be an important cause of migration for village girls whether they went to cities or remained in rural areas.

Youth in agricultural villages attend school to a greater extent than youth in rural areas as a whole, and more young men than young women are in school. Village youth attain a relatively high educational level and over one-half of all out-of-school youth have completed high school at least. But

relatively few take such vocational courses as the local high schools offer. Those who have the limited training offered by the high schools are usually prepared for already overcrowded fields.

A large proportion of the youth in agricultural villages have jobs but their incomes are often low. More than one-half of all out-of-school young men and unmarried young women received either no income or less than \$300 during the year prior to June 1, 1936. As a group they owned very little property other than personal belongings. The most common types reported were automobiles, furniture, and savings. One-fifth of the married young men owned personal property only. More than one-half of the out-of-school young men and seven-tenths of the unmarried young women with property reported assets valued at less than \$300.

The availability of social and recreational opportunities for youth varied greatly. In-school youth participated more frequently in local organizations than out-of-school youth, and girls more frequently than boys. The radio and reading were the most popular types of informal recreation, while the most serious lack appeared to be in outdoor sports.

### Cooperatives

The following findings and recommendations are reported in "Attitudes of Farmers Toward Cooperative Marketing," (42) a study based on field interviews with 326 farmers located in five areas in Ohio.

(1) Farmers "had a resistance toward information put out by the cooperatives." (2) Smaller or local associations have a better opportunity of keeping members informed than large organizations, the offices of which are many miles away. (3) "It would seem that all cooperatives should give farmers more information of an educational nature, and stay away from the propaganda type of information. It would seem that information of a factual nature, educational and well timed, is necessary to get farmers interested." (4) "To most farmers, a cooperative association which is 30 or more miles away is a rather impersonal thing. Since it is, they look upon the cooperative most of the time as another competitive organization handling their products."

### Costs of Home Production

Much of the discussion of subsistence farming and live-at-home programs has been carried on without sufficient information to provide adequate answers to questions of costs and economic benefits to be derived. With the growing importance of subsistence farming, it becomes increasingly necessary to have adequate data on these points. The School of Living, Suffern, New York, under the direction of Ralph Borsodi, has undertaken to collect and present in a series of bulletins (57) such materials, showing the computations which lead them to conclude that many items of home production are economically advantageous. For example, they conclude concerning the 1-cow dairy that when all costs are taken into account, "the average family living near a large city can save \$136.96 annually on milk and earn \$0.48 an hour in time spent



caring for the cow." The estimates of investment and yearly costs take into account depreciation, interest, taxes, maintenance, and repairs for the various items which are likely to be involved: cow barn, pasture, fence, barn and milk equipment, and yearly supplies. The bulletins are comprehensively documented and each one includes a bibliography.

In addition to figures on costs and incomes there are suggestions for the use of materials and discussions of the general background of the problem being analyzed. One of the major purposes is to set forth comparative costs of home production and commercial production and the budgetary problems of families with incomes between \$1,500 and \$3,000.

#### NOTES

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#### Division Notes

Dwight M. Davidson, Jr. has accepted a position as Associate Economist in the regional office of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation at Dallas, Texas. Frank D. Cronin has taken the place of James O. Babcock who was appointed Assistant to the Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in December. Horace Miner is now making an anthropological study in Timbuktu. Recent additions to the Washington staff of the Division are: Paul H. Johnstone and Dorothy C. Goodwin, research in agricultural history; Waller Wynne, Jr. and Edward O. Moe, social psychology; Mary M. Splawn, studies of standards of living; Dorothy F. McCammon and Franklin M. Aaronson, studies of rural rehabilitation.

#### Federal Notes

The Bureau of the Census has published "Periodic and Special Reports Issued by the Division of Population Since the Fifteenth Decennial Census of Population, 1930." (19) All available reports issued by the Division since the completion of the regular reports for that Census are presented under the following subject headings: Estimates of Population; Occupations and Unemployment of Gainful Workers; Urban and Rural Areas; Age; Color or Race, Nativity, and Parentage; Families; Marriage and Divorce; Miscellaneous Population Reports; Crime; Mental Patients; Children in Institutions; and Census of Puerto Rico, 1935.

An "Index of Data Tabulated from the 1930 Census of Population, Including Unemployment" (20) outlines all the tabulations which have been made of the information collected in the 1930 Census of Population and Unemployment and the 1931 Special Census of Unemployment, and covers, therefore, both the statistics which have been published and the tabulated population and unemployment data which are unpublished.

Other recent releases are: "Urban Population in the United States from the First Census (1790) to the Fifteenth Census (1930)" and "Employment and Unemployment in South Bend: The Results of the Special Census of St. Joseph and Marshall Counties, Indiana, for 1939." (21 and 22)

### Other Notes

The National Economic and Social Planning Association has begun the publication of a selective guide to significant reports and activities in the field of national planning. "The NESPA Guide," issued monthly except July and August, covers articles, books, and addresses and includes a number of news notes about activities relating to planning.

The Problems of Surplus Agricultural Population is the major topic of the International Journal of Agrarian Affairs published October 1939. The symposium includes contributions by J. D. Black of Harvard University and M. L. Wilson of the United States Department of Agriculture. This is Volume I, Number 1, of the new Journal published by the International Conference of Agricultural Economists. Inquiries may be addressed to the Secretary of the Conference, J. R. Currie, Economics Department(Research), Darlington Hall, Totnes, Devon, England.

As an outgrowth of the 1931 European Conference on Rural Hygiene the League of Nations convened a European Conference on Rural Life in 1939. This conference was to consider from a technical standpoint the various problems involved in raising the social standards and level of well-being of the rural areas of Europe. The agenda dealt with questions of vital statistics, agricultural economy, public health, nutrition, cooperation, education, and rural planning.

In connection with this conference the League has issued a series of publications (77) National monographs drawn up by Governments include:

No. 1- Finland. Deals with the rural population of Finland, measures to improve the situation of the landless population, farmers and small peasants, cooperatives, the present social and economic structure of country districts, the present standard of living of the rural population, hygiene, popular education, and social insurance.

No. 2.- Belgium. Major topics: density of the agricultural population, land tenure and agrarian reforms, agricultural cooperation, agricultural credit, agricultural educational establishments, service of agricultural information propaganda, medico-social policy, nutrition, and rural planning.

No. 10.- The Netherlands. Partial contents: population, Land Tenure system; Land Settlement; Co-operatives; Credit and Insurance; Rural Planning; Medico-Social Policy. Nutrition.

No. 11.- Latvia. Partial contents: Demographic Situation; Agrarian Reform; Organisations for the Promotion of Agriculture; Branches of Industry Handling Agricultural Products; Variations in Yield and Organisation of Markets; Standardisation of Agricultural Products; Co-operation; Agricultural Credit; Medico-Social Policy; Nutrition; The Economic Structure of Rural Life; The Problem of Improving the Conditions of Rural Life in Latvia.

No. 12.- Lithuania. Partial contents: Demographic Data; Land Tenure and Agrarian Reform; Organisation of Markets; Co-operation; Agricultural Credit and Agricultural Insurance: The role of Lithuanian Women in Agri-



culture; Peasant Art and Folklore; Organisation of Leisure; Medico-Social Policy; Rural Nutrition; Rural Planning.

Technical documentations, based on contributions by the International Institute of Agriculture, are:

No. 6.- Land Reclamation and Improvement in Europe. This report, prepared by Dr. Giulio Costanzo, discusses the organization and development of land reclamation operations in 19 European countries.

No. 7.- Conditions and Improvement of Crop Production, Stock-Raising and Rural Industries. Among the topics discussed are the problems arising between harvesting and delivery to the processing factory, the alcohol industry, milk industries, and handicraft industries.

No. 8.- Government Action Concerned with Agricultural Markets and Production. Partial contexts: Agricultural Protection; Reduction of Cost of Production; Organisation of Markets; Organisation of Agriculture; Features and Effects of Governmental Action.

Technical documentations prepared under the auspices of the Health Committee are:

No. 13.- General Survey of Medico-Social Policy in Rural Areas.

No. 18.- Rural Housing and Planning.

Other general technical documentations in this series are:

No. 9.- Co-operative Action in Rural Life, a survey prepared by the Co-operative Service of the International Labour Office.

No. 14.- The Organisation of Technical Instruction for Agriculturalists by J. Van Der Vaeren.

No. 15.- Sickness Insurance and Rural Medical Assistance, prepared by the International Labour Office.

No. 16.- Intellectual Aspects of Rural Life, prepared by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation.

No. 17.- Recreation in Rural Areas, prepared by the International Labour Office.

"Documentation for the European Conference on Rural Life 1939" (78) has been published by the International Institute of Agriculture. It presents comparable data for the major European countries (except Russia) on:

- (1) Population and agriculture, with special reference to agricultural overpopulation.
- (2) The land tenure systems in Europe.

- (3) The capital and the income of farms in Europe, as they appear from the farm accounts for the years 1927-28 to 1934-35.
- (4) Land reclamation and improvement in Europe. (Available as League of Nations Series No. 6)
- (5) Conditions and improvement of crop production, stock-raising, and rural industries. (Available as League of Nations Series No. 7.)
- (6) Government action concerned with agricultural markets and production. (Available as League of Nations Series No. 8.)

The section dealing with Population and Agriculture includes comparative data on Rural Demography, discusses methodological problems arising in the study of density of population with reference to agriculture, and gives an account of agricultural overpopulation in some European Regions. The latter includes an analysis of symptoms of agricultural overpopulation and some proposed remedies.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS  
Reviewed and Received

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Federal

- (1) "Rural Life and National Welfare," by Carl C. Taylor, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 9 pp.
- (2) "Social Relationships and Institutions in Seven New Rural Communities," by Charles P. Loomis, Soc. Res. Rept. No. XVIII, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Jan. 1940, 82 pp.
- (3) "Inventory of Reports and Research Studies Completed and in Progress, Relating to Adjustments of Population to Resources in the Northern Great Plains States," by Neil W. Johnson and Orval E. Goodsell, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Jan. 1940, 86 pp.
- (4) "Rural Library Service," Farmers' Bul. No. 1847, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 28 pp.
- (5) "Standards of Value for Program Planning and Building," Proceedings of School for Washington Staff, Bur. of Agr. Econ., Oct. 17-20, 1939, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 132 pp.
- (6) "Selected References on the History of English Agriculture," by Everett E. Edwards, Bibliographical Contributions, No. 24, Ed. 2, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Oct. 1939, 105 pp.



- (7) "An Analysis of Pertinent Social and Economic Factors Affecting Land Use in Overton County, Tennessee," by John E. Mason and Edward L. K. Gruehn, Land Econ. Rept. No. 4, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Aug. 1939, 83 pp.
- (8) "Yearbook of Agriculture, 1939: Food and Life," U. S. Dept. of Agr., U. S. Govt. Print. Off., Washington, D. C., 1939, 1165 pp.
- (9) "Land Use and Family Welfare in Pope County, Illinois," By V. B. Fielder and D. E. Lindstrom, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., July, 1939, 105 pp.
- (10) "Agricultural Outlook Charts, 1940: Farm Family Living," U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Oct. 1939, 33 pp.
- (11) "Using a Local Cooperative as Source Material for Teaching," by James L. Robinson, Circ. E-25, FCA, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 1939, 9 pp.
- (12) "Cooperative Marketing of Forest Products: A Bibliography," Forest Service Library U.S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Nov. 1939, 22 pp.
- (13) "Culture and Agriculture," Rept. of session of Conf. on Cultural Anthropology, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 1939, 31 pp.
- (14) "Industrial Change and Employment Opportunity: A Selected Bibliography, National Research Rept. No. G-5, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., 1939, 254 pp.
- (15) "Rural Unemployed Not Receiving Assistance," Res. Bul. Ser. II, No. 18, WPA, Washington, D. C., Oct. 1939, 15 pp.
- (16) "State Public Welfare Legislation," by Robert C. Lowe, Res. Mono. 20, Div. of Res., WPA, Washington, D. C., 1939, 398 pp.
- (17) "Farm-City Migration and Industry's Labor Reserve," by Francis M. Vreeland and Edward J. Fitzgerald, Rept. No. L-7, National Research Project, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., 1939, 67 pp.
- (18) "Youth in Agricultural Villages," by Bruce L. Melvin and Elna N. Smith, Res. Mono. XXI, WPA, Washington, D. C., 1939, 143 pp.
- (19) "Periodic and Special Reports Issued by the Division of Population Since the Fifteenth Decennial Census of Population, 1930," Bur. of the Census, U. S. Dept. of Comm., Washington, D. C., Nov. 3, 1939, 12 pp.
- (20) "Index of Data Tabulated from the 1930 Census of Population, Including Unemployment," Bur. of the Census, U. S. Dept. of Comm., Washington, D. C., 1940, 47 pp.
- (21) "Urban Population in the United States from the First Census (1790) to the Fifteenth Census (1930) Bur. of Census, U. S. Dept. of Comm, Washington, D. C., Oct. 31, 1939, 11 pp.
- (22) "Employment and Unemployment in South Bend," Bur. of the Census, U. S. Dept. of Comm., Washington, D. C., March 21, 1940, 15 pp.

(23) "Consumer Expenditures in the United States: Estimates for 1935-36," National Resources Committee, U. S. Govt. Print. Off., Washington, D. C., 1939, 195 pp.

(24) "Conference on Children in a Democracy," Papers and Discussions at the Initial Session, Children's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C., Apr. 1939, 149 pp.

(25) "Memorandum on Relief," Special Memo. No. 6, National Policy Committee, Washington, D. C., 1939, 23 pp.

(26) "Curriculum Development in Education for Home and Family Living; Part II, Series I, Some Procedures Used in Evolving a Philosophy," Off. of Ed., U. S. Dept. of Interior, Washington, D. C., Mar. 1939, 48 pp.

(27) "A List of Recent Books and Pamphlets on Cooperation in the United States and Foreign Countries," Compiled by Grace H. Fuller under the direction of Florence S. Hellman, Division of Bibliography, Library of Congress, June 1939, Washington, D. C., 44 pp.

### State

#### Arkansas

(28) "Recent Changes in Farm Labor Organization in Three Arkansas Plantation Counties," by Glen T. Barton and J. G. McNeely, Ark. Agr. Exp. Sta. Prelim. Rept., Fayetteville, Sept. 1939, 49 pp.

(29) "Land Tenure in Arkansas: I. The Farm Tenancy Situation," by J. A. Baker and J. G. McNeely, Bul. 384, Ark. Agr. Exp. Sta., Fayetteville, 1940, 62 pp.

#### California

(30) "Annual Report: Wages Paid in Agricultural Occupations, All Counties, State of California, Year 1938," U. S. Farm Placement Service, Los Angeles, 1939, 85 pp.

#### Colorado

(31) "Educational Foundations for Rural Rehabilitation," by R. W. Roskelley and Olaf F. Larson, Bul. 457, Colo. Agr. Exp. Sta., Fort Collins, Nov. 1939, 30 pp.

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(32) "Wilton: A Rural Town Near Metropolitan New York," by N. L. Whetten, Studies of Suburbanization in Connecticut, No. 3, Bul. 230, Storrs Agr. Exp. Sta., Conn. State Coll., Storrs, Feb. 1939, 132 pp.

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(33) "Trends in Rural Retailing in Illinois, 1926 to 1938," by Rob. V. Mitchell, Bul. Ser. No. 59, Univ. of Ill., Urbana, Aug. 1939, 63 pp.



Kentucky

(34) "Natural Increase and Migration of Kentucky Population: 1920 to 1935," by Merton Oyler, Bul. No. 395, Ky. Agr. Exp. Sta., Lexington, Aug. 1939, 45 pp.

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(35) "Origins of Class Struggle in Louisiana: A Social History of White Farmers and Laborers During Slavery and After, 1840-1875," by R. W. Shugg, Louisiana State Univ. Press, University, 1939, 372 pp.

Michigan

(36) "Young Men from Michigan Farms: A Study of Farm-Reared Men Who Attended Certain Michigan High Schools Which Maintain Departments of Vocational Agriculture," by G. P. Deyoe, Vocat. Ed. Bul. 256, Mich. Agr. Exp. Sta., Lansing, 1939, 56 pp.

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(37) "The Rural Population Resources of Missouri," by C. E. Lively and R. B. Almack, Res. Bul. 306, Mo. Agr. Exp. Sta., Columbia, No. 1939, 58 pp.

(38) "Some Rural Social Agencies in Missouri: Their Nature and Extent," by C. E. Lively and R. B. Almack, Res. Bul. 307, Coll. of Agr., Univ. of Mo., Agr. Exp. Sta., Columbia, Nov. 1939, 58 pp.

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(39) "Development of Economic Opportunities in Montana for Migratory and Stranded Families," Montana State Planning Board, Helena, Oct. 1939, 100 pp.

(40) "What is Happening to Montana's Population?" by R. R. Renne, Mimeo. Circ. 12, Montana Agr. Exp. Sta., Bozeman, Feb. 1939, 13 pp.

North Carolina

(41) "Rural Youth in North Carolina," by Robin M. Williams, Bul. 324, N. C. Agr. Exp. Sta., Raleigh, June 1939, 63 pp.

Ohio

(42) "Attitudes of Farmers toward Cooperative Marketing," by Geo. F. Henning and Earl B. Poling, Bul. 606, Ohio Agr. Exp. Sta., Wooster, Sept. 1939, 36 pp.

Oklahoma

(43) "Farm Tenancy in Oklahoma," by John H. Southern, Bul. 239, Agr. Exp. Sta., Stillwater, Dec. 1939, 38 pp.

(44) "The Significance of the Migrations of Oklahoma Farm Population," by Otis Durant Duncan, Okla. A&M Coll., Stillwater, Okla., 1939, 8 pp.

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(46) "Farm Tenancy in Pennsylvania," by P. I. Wrigley, Bul. 383, Pa., Agr., Exp. Sta., State College, Sept. 1939, 37 pp.

(47) "Better Rural Meetings," by R. W. Kerns, Ext. Circ. 216, Div. Agr., Pa. State Coll., State College, 1939, 14 pp.

South Dakota

(48) "Prairie Tamers of Miner County," Federal Writers' Project, South Dakota WPA, Carthage, 1939, 35 pp.

(49) "Movement of Farm Population, South Dakota, 1938," by W. F. Kumlien and R. L. McNamara, Circ. 26, So. Dak. Agr. Expt. Sta., Brookings, 1939, 6 pp.

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(50) "Development of Farmers' Cooperatives in Tennessee," by C. E. Allred and B. D. Raskopf, Rur. Res. Ser. Mono. No. 99, Tenn. Agr. Exp. Sta., Knoxville, Dec. 1939, 48 pp.

(51) "Publications of Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Tennessee," Rur. Ser. Mono. No. 60 (2nd rev.), Agr. Exp. Sta., Coll. of Agr., Univ. of Tenn., Knoxville, Oct. 20, 1939, 25 pp.

(52) "Effect of Industrial Development on Population Change," by C. E. Allred and J. P. Burnett, Rur. Res. Ser. Mono. No. 96, Tenn. Agr. Exp. Sta., Knoxville, Oct. 15, 1939, 49 pp.

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(53) "Incomes and Expenditures of 299 Vermont Village Families," by Marianne Muse and Margaret E. Openshaw, Bul. 450, Agr. Exp. Sta., Burlington, July 1939, 46 pp.

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(54) "American Social Problems: An Introduction to the Study of the People and Their Dilemmas," by Howard W. Odum, Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1939, 549 pp.

(55) "Rural Youth," by Wm. McKinley Robinson, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, Chicago, Ill., 1939, 23 pp.

(56) "State Conferences for Older Rural Youth," by E. L. Kirkpatrick and Agnes M. Boynton, American Youth Commission, Washington, D. C., Dec. 1939, 32 pp.



- (57) "How to Economize on: Planning your Home; Buying Land for Your Home; Laundry; Bread, Cake, and Pastry; Flour and Breakfast Foods; Buying and Storing Food; Fruit; Vegetables; Canned Foods; Milk and Cream," Homestead Bulletins, Nos. 1 and 3-11, The School of Living, Suffern, N. Y., 1940.
- (58) "The Negro Family in the United States," by E. F. Frazier, The Univ. of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill., 1939, 686 pp.
- (59) "Migration and Social Welfare: An Approach to the Problem of the Non-Settled Person in the Community," by Philip E. Ryan, Russell Sage Foundation, New York, 1940, 114 pp.
- (60) "An American Exodus: A Record of Human Erosion," by Dorothea Lange and Paul Schuster Taylor, Reynal and Hitchcock, New York, 1939, 158 pp.
- (61) "Forever the Farm," by Mrs. Marion Rawson, E. P. Dutton and Co., Inc., New York, 1939, 380 pp.
- (62) "A Better Rural Life," by Edgar Schmiedeler, J. F. Wagner, Inc., New York, 1938, 304 pp.
- (63) "Farmers of Tomorrow," by Urban Baer, Monroe Pub. Co., Sparta, Wis., 1939, 205 pp.
- (64) "Masters of Their Own Destiny: The Story of the Antigonish Movement of Adult Education through Economic Cooperation," by M. M. Coady, Harper and Bros., New York and London, 1939, 170 pp.
- (65) "Nutrition and Physical Degeneration," by Weston A. Price Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., New York, 1939, 431 pp.
- (66) "Introductory Sociology: A Study of American Society," by E. W. Gregory, Jr., and Lee Bidgood, Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York, 1939, 653 pp.
- (67) "Principles of Economic Sociology: The Economics of Primitive Life as Illustrated from the Bantu Peoples of South and East Africa," by D. M. Goodfellow, George Routledge and Sons, London, 1939, 289 pp.
- (68) "The Trampling Herd: The Story of the Cattle Range in America," by Paul I. Wellman, Carrick and Evans, Inc., New York, 1939, 433 pp.
- (69) "The Church in Rural Life," by David Edgar Lindstrom, The Garrard Press, Champaign, Ill., 1939, 145 pp.
- (70) "The Changing West: An Economic Theory about our Golden Age," by William Allen White, The Macmillan Co., New York, 1939, 144 pp.
- (71) "Cost of Living in the Cooperative Villages," Audit Union of the Workers' Agricultural Co-operative Societies, Ltd., Tel-Aviv, Palestine, 1939, 15 pp.
- (72) "American Cooperation, 1939," American Institute of Cooperation, 15th summer session at Univ. of Chicago, Washington, D. C., 1939, 695 pp.

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# FARM POPULATION and RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

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WORK OF THE DIVISION OF FARM POPULATION AND RURAL WELFARE  
DURING THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1940.

With the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture, for which the preliminary plans were made in the fall of 1938, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics was designated as the economic research and planning agency for the Department of Agriculture. Correspondingly, each of the divisions within the Bureau has been given additional responsibilities. During the year here reported a major emphasis in the work has been upon research relating to the county land use planning program, as well as that which would be directly of service to the operating agencies in the Department. To provide for these expanding demands upon the Division, the staff has been increased both in Washington and in the field offices.

Demands for rural sociological research have been coming from all sides and in a volume far beyond expectations. Many of the demands were for services, that is, for short-time research projects that would bear directly upon some immediate problem with which an operating agency or a county or State planning agency was concerned. Approximately two-fifths of the total funds available to the Division during the year have been used directly in connection with the county land use planning program and an additional one-fourth has been devoted to long- and short-time research projects requested by operating agencies and others. As a result, the work of this Division now includes a more extensive program in short-time projects and service and on problems requiring immediate attention than was formerly the case. Although this phase of the work accounts for a larger share of the budget than formerly, there also are actually more resources for the long-time research projects which are intended to contribute basic knowledge in the field of rural sociology as it is related to the agricultural problems in the United States.

The objectives of long, or fundamental research, and short-time and service research projects are frequently closely intertwined, and both can be carried on without sacrificing the objectives of either. Moreover, by rendering immediate and practical service through an application of the basic knowledge and technique which we as rural sociologists have, it is frequently possible to open the door for more intensive and more fundamental work. Rural sociologists have often found themselves handicapped in doing some of the fundamental research which they consider important because its value was not readily demonstrable. However, when research is geared to seek answers to immediate problems and then demonstrates its practical utility, this may readily lead to an opening of the gates to and even a demand for the more intensive work. When dealing with the many demands for rural sociological research which have come to the Division during the year, it has been a guiding principle that the most fundamental research that can be undertaken can be done by getting into the middle of a practical situation and studying it in the light of all the knowledge and techniques which sociologists have.

As a result of the practical need of the county planning programs to find effective units of organization within the county, a demand for service in the delineation of neighborhoods and communities has developed in all parts of the country. By utilizing the work that has been done at Experiment Stations, as well as in the Division, it was possible to suggest and apply techniques for the delineation of neighborhoods and communities which could be done quickly enough to meet the needs of the county planning committees. The work has already been done in 40 counties, where 480 communities and 3,600 neighborhoods have been studied and outlined during the year. Results of these activities have been so clear cut that in many of these counties the county planning committees have reorganized on the basis of the communities or neighborhoods as outlined. In at least 15 counties the whole work of the Extension Program is being reorganized in such a way that it takes advantage of the findings of these studies. Moreover, State workers have requested similar services in counties where the planning program had not yet been started so that it might be started on a more effective organizational basis.

This work in community organization illustrates the possibility of working at several levels. Delineating communities or neighborhoods represents the most extensive level of research in community organization, and it provides some information about the structure of communities and neighborhoods in all parts of the country, as well as adding to the basic information which now exists about community organization. In addition, a demand has developed for more intensive types of research in a number of communities - a recognition by the local people of the need for more information about the way in which the community functions and the role of the various organizations within the community.

A few requests have been received for a more intensive type of work to provide an analysis of the leadership patterns in the community and in the county. To meet these requests requires a study of the processes by which leaders are developed and by which they function as leaders. This piece of service research will require all of the skill the rural sociologists and the sociological psychologists can bring to bear upon a study of leadership. There will be a maximum of local cooperation because the study will contribute to an understanding of recognized local problems.

Much of the work of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare can be carried on at various levels of intensity from the most extensive survey to the most intensive analysis of deep-lying factors. The fact that a large proportion of this work has practical utility is a demonstration that the research workers are dealing with vital rural problems in the United States.

### County Planning

The work in relation to county land use planning has assumed a wide variety of forms, depending upon the requests of regional, State, and county officials and the needs of the local county and community commit-



tees. The service most frequently requested was assistance in the delineation of neighborhoods and communities. Work has been done in 40 counties and requests are now pending from a larger number. This work has been done either by technicians directly doing the necessary field work, or by training persons who had not previously had such experience to carry on the necessary field work, or by working directly with the county committees who in turn collected the required data.

An example of the nature of this work is provided in Hand County, South Dakota. Previously the county agent had called group meetings in the 40 townships in the county and had considered each of these townships as a unit of organization. The county committee and the county agent recognized that it would be impossible for the county agent to meet with each of 40 planning committees as frequently as the planning work would require. After considering the problem of how to get fewer and more effective local units for planning, the county committee set up a subcommittee to make a careful study of community organization and to map the community areas for the county. This subcommittee, with the aid of a technician in community organization, carried on the work in Hand County by first asking farmers to map out areas within which people have common interests. All of the church, nationality, school, and trade areas were mapped. The technician then developed one county map showing all of these areas and had the farmers indicate the limits of each neighborhood, that is, those areas within which people "neighbor" with each other; the children attend the same school, the men exchange work, the contacts are frequent and personal, and there is a sense of belonging. The farmers then indicated those larger areas within which the people from more than one neighborhood have sufficient in common to meet together, if questions should arise involving a larger area than one neighborhood. In this way the larger community areas took shape.

As a result, 12 community areas are now being used as local units instead of the 40 townships. The county agent can meet with these groups more frequently and he will find much more interest in community planning activities. He reports: "Besides meeting the specific need for having detailed information about the people of the county, their backgrounds, and their churches, schools, and other social institutions, this job of describing the rural communities is a most welcome addition to land use planning. County Extension agents everywhere will recognize the real value of having rural communities mapped so that rural organizations may have as their basis areas of common interest. Naturally the local people will more actively support a solution of a problem if that solution is one to which they have contributed. Consequently, perhaps the most important point about this community mapping job is that it has been done by the farm men and women. This story of how the local people participated should help other counties to do similar work in community organization."

Other projects and activities carried on at the request of county or State land use planning committees cover most of the range of the

activities of the Division. In many instances, information from secondary sources and interpretation has been supplied in the form of tables and text, as well as charts and maps. Reconnaissance surveys have been undertaken to provide county committees with a rapid over-all summary of the major problems in the county as related to the planning program in their counties.

These surveys have been based on published sources and field interviews with local leaders. On the basis of these quick surveys, county committees are requesting additional surveys of specific problems. Members of the Division staff have met with county and State committees in all parts of the country, supplying materials as requested and consulting on problems relating to rural welfare. In addition, they have been able to provide information to relate the county to others in the immediate vicinity or in the entire region. As a result of these services, there have been numerous requests for longer time projects to provide information about some specific problem which was a major concern of the local committee.

Thus, studies of levels of living were undertaken in North Carolina and Maine. In the North Carolina project the purpose was to make an intensive study of relatively few farm families in order to find the causal relationships in the levels of living of the people in the county and to relate the variations in the levels of living to the differences in land use and tenure within the county. In the project in Maine an effort is being made to show the variations in levels of living in the several communities within a county, as well as the various areas of the State. The work is being done through the Homemakers' Clubs. In each community, representative groups of farm women designate areas in their communities as having a good, fair, or poor level of living. These will be combined through a standard index for use on a Statewide basis and comparisons will be made between the subjective evaluation of the levels of living and the objective data which are also being secured. In addition, the relationship between the levels of living and the land classification will be studied.

Field studies of the relation of farm population to resources have been done in a number of areas. In Washington County, Rhode Island, a house-to-house canvass was made to ascertain the extent to which land is used in semi-and commercial farming and to show the effects of this economy upon the security of the people. It was also intended to relate the characteristics and social organization of the people living upon different land classes to their levels of living and to find the degree of attachment of the local residents to the land. A study in Warren County, Iowa, was undertaken to find trends in population and the opportunities for absorbing maturing young people in the agriculture of the county; and to find the educational and vocational opportunities for youth in the county. Approximately three-fourths of the field work on this project is being done by the farmer-members of the county committees. In both Nemaha County, Kansas, and Ward County, North Dakota, detailed studies



of trends of rural population, especially as they relate to the population of school age, have been made. Assistance has been given county committees in South Dakota, Colorado, and Kansas in analyzing population trends as revealed in local sources, or in making special counts of the population or preparing inter-censal estimates. In five counties in Colorado, arrangements were made with county school officials to take the annual school census in such a way that it would provide additional information on population and migration which was desired by the county committees.

In Ross County, Ohio, the rural youth clubs have begun a survey to obtain an effectual bases for the building of programs for the rural youth in the various land use areas of the county. They are securing information about the number, geographic distribution, age, and sex of the rural young people; their educational achievements and needs; the employment history, attitude, and vocational outlook of youth in the various areas; the trend and direction of the migrations of young people during the last 5 years and the reasons for their migrations; the extent to which rural young people have been handicapped by illness and the health service they have used; their marital status and extent of family responsibilities; the nature, extent, and location of their social participation; and the employment opportunities that are available. This project was undertaken directly by the rural youth clubs in the county who prepared schedules, collected the information, and assisted in the tabulation and analysis. In Wisconsin and Indiana similar youth projects are under way.

One of the major questions which has been coming to the attention of county land use planning committees has been the need for public assistance and the characteristics of the groups receiving such assistance. The Committees ask such questions as: Who are the people on relief and WPA; Are they equipped to do the meager amount of farming which many of them are doing or attempting to do? How are the relief, WPA, AAA, and other public funds being distributed throughout the county and to what extent is the need for relief more intense in the poorer land areas than elsewhere? County committees in Carleton County, Minnesota; Boone County, Nebraska; Hand County, South Dakota; and Belknap County, New Hampshire, have raised such questions and the Division has furnished technical assistance in collecting and interpreting the information needed for the committees' consideration.

In Teton County, Montana, the county committee had made preliminary recommendations concerning the minimum size of farm unit, but on further study it found that more than 200 families who apparently were self-supporting were living on farms below that minimum size. Assistance was requested in making a study of these farm families to find the reasons for this paradox. Work done so far indicates clearly a need for an appraisal of factors other than size of farm in determining sub-minimum farm units. Among the more important factors are age of operator, size of family, and income from nonfarm sources. In cooperation with other



Divisions in the Bureau, a report on another area in the Northern Great Plains was prepared showing from field studies the necessity of taking similar factors into account in any classification of farm units as adequate or substandard in respect to size.

In a number of areas requests have been made by county planning committees for analyses of the rural leadership in the county in an attempt to learn the extent to which the local leaders represent the various groupings within the county, as well as the fields of activities and the manner in which they exercise this leadership. The project in Kentucky is planned: (a) to delineate various social groupings of the rural farm population to determine their suitability as land use planning units; to study service areas of local institutions in relation to the functioning of community committees and in relation to differences in the interests and activities of community committee-men; to develop suggested procedure for establishing suitable boundaries for land use planning committees; and (b) to learn the extent and nature of local participation in land use planning processes; to study especially the characteristics of community and county committees and committee-men in relation to their planning activities; to ascertain the social and organizational differences among committees which differ in effectiveness and to develop suggested procedures for organization and local planning. In Adair County, Iowa, a similar project has been under way.

Questions relating to tenancy were a major concern of the land use planning committee in Box Butte County, Nebraska, and a study of land tenure and its relation to land use and community activities has been carried on. Although not yet complete the study has shown high mobility rates and low levels of living among tenants and greater depreciation of land and improvements on tenant operated farms.

In Wayne County, Missouri, one of the major problems before the land use planning committee was created by the construction of a dam across a local river. When the date for filling the dam was announced and the affected families were ordered to move, apparently no plans had been made for aiding the 450 families that were to be displaced. About 300 of them lived on farms, primarily on bottom lands, and as the remainder of the county consists of rough, hilly land with little opportunity for farming, it was evident that consideration must be given to location outside the county. In cooperation with the Department of Rural Sociology at the University of Missouri, a house-to-house survey of the families located on the land was made to provide some basis for classification of the families and referral to the agencies most likely to be able to give that assistance. The collected data were turned over to a joint committee set up by the land use planning committee which, in turn, made arrangements for the proper assistance to each family.

In connection with the work done at the request of county land use planning committees, considerable attention has been given to the possibility of having the actual work done by the farmers and homemakers themselves. In Hand County, South Dakota, for example, subcommittees of the land use planning committee have made the analysis of the local communities and neighborhoods which lead to a more effective organization, both of the county planning and the whole extension work. Other sub-



committees developed the estimates of recent migration from farms and net losses of population by townships. Still other subcommittees worked with the questions of characteristics of the relief population and the prospects of economic self-support for this group of people.

The representative of the Division working in Hand County has served essentially in a technical and advisory capacity -- assisting in developing the formulation of questions and simple schedules, transcribing information from county and other records, and preparing preliminary summaries for consideration and interpretation by the subcommittees of the county committee. Similarly, in the youth studies in Ohio and Indiana, the major work of developing a schedule, collecting the information, tabulating, and making interpretations is being done by the young people themselves, with the advice and assistance of technical persons. the study of levels of living in Maine was done directly by the homemakers who filled out schedules for themselves and their neighbors.

This means of service is far more effective in many instances than doing a job for the local committee, and it is an important contribution to the work of the whole county planning program. Not only is it the job of the committee, but the information is applied more definitely than if it were simply handed to the committee as a finished job. Frequently in the process, new angles of a problem are developed and it is possible to lift the entire problem out of the realm of speculation on the basis of the facts which the discussants have themselves collected and analyzed.

#### Rural Rehabilitation

A nationwide study of standard loan clients of the Farm Security Administration was carried on through the assistance of the Works Progress Administration. A sample of about 38,000 clients located in 11 of the 12 Farm Security Administration regions and in 43 States was included in the study, and data secured for these cases covered the 3-year period, March 1936 to February 1939. Data are being collected concerning the loan records, grants, purpose of loans, liquidations, debt adjustment, family characteristics, tenure status, lease arrangements, actual and planned receipts and expenditures, actual and planned crop acreages and yields, livestock production, and assets and liabilities.

These data are being analyzed to ascertain the social and economic characteristics of clients at the time they receive their first standard loan, the trend in the type of clients coming into the Farm Security Administration program, the progress of clients and the factors associated with progress or the lack of progress, the purposes for which loans are made, and to compare farm and home plans with actual practices.

The Division, during the last 2 years, has been carrying on a study of the progress of an experimental project of the Farm Security Administration designed to assist low-income farm families who were not

as standard loan cases. Through case studies of the families at the time they were accepted and subsequent analysis of periodic administrative records, current information is being secured on the changes in economic conditions and social participation as well as the social status of these families while receiving assistance.

In a number of counties in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina, the Division has been asked to make an analysis of social data relating to land use planning in the records of the Farm Security Administration. The Administration's offices are making available the records of their clients and providing working space. The major purpose is to supply State and county representatives of the Farm Security Administration with social data relating to land use planning. In Greene County, Georgia, the project has found that the yield per acre on farms of clients in areas classified as poor land exceeds average yield in good land areas, and that the age of the head of the household and his tenure are important elements in the progress towards a successful "live-at-home" program, and the accumulation of farm and household property.

#### Studies of Families Displaced by Land Purchase Programs

As a result of earlier requests, a number of studies have been made of families who formerly lived on Federal land purchase areas. In the case of families who moved as a result of the purchase program in central New York, it was found that these families improved their situation by moving, but that the administration of the purchase program met with many criticisms from the families themselves. A similar study of families who moved from a submarginal purchase area in Alabama showed that many of the families shifted from farming to nonfarming occupations, and a large proportion of them became wholly dependent upon relief work available in their new locations; those who moved to a nearby resettlement project considerably improved their situation. Most of the families found less opportunity for supplementing their farm income with work off the farm after resettlement than before.

A study in the southeast followed families from five submarginal purchase areas. Analyses of these materials are not complete, but they indicate that more of the families who were relocated have gained than lost by the change in respect to levels of living, farm resources, and accessibility of community institutions and facilities. Most of the families report decreases in net worth. On 4 of the 5 projects the majority of the families appear to have benefited from the change. On the fifth project the majority of families appear to be worse off.

A study of families that were moved off for land purchase projects in Colorado, Kansas, and New Mexico is in progress, to find whether the families that moved improved their living conditions and what their attitudes are toward the Land Purchase Program and its administration.



## Flood Control

The Division has cooperated with the work in Flood Control surveys, through three rural sociologists attached to the flood control program. Their work has varied with the needs of the particular survey parties to which they have been assigned. In all cases, they have sought to bring data on population trends, levels of living, and community organization to bear on the problems in the flood control areas being surveyed. In a number of instances they have carried on field studies in these directions. In connection with the Yazoo-Backwater Areas project, a cooperative study was set up to secure population trends and the characteristics, attitudes, community organization and economic adjustments of the new settlers.

## Community Organization

A community study of stability and instability was begun in 7 rural communities scattered from New Hampshire to New Mexico. This survey represents a coordinated approach by three groups of social scientists -- social psychologists, cultural anthropologists, and community organization specialists. A well-trained worker has lived in each of the communities for a period of 4 months or more, studying the cultural and psychological aspects of the community life.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the cultural, community, and social psychological factors in land use and rural life, with special reference to those factors which either facilitate, or offer resistance to, change, contribute to adjustments and maladjustments, and to stability and instability in the individual and community life. This study is projected upon the assumption that in addition to the physical and economic factors there are cultural and socio-psychological factors which condition the thinking and behavior of farmers and farm groups. The field workers became participant observers in the communities which they were studying and collected information from published and unpublished sources.

Special attention is given to cultural patterns having to do with land use, physical and biological phenomena, economic techniques, values as to basic matters such as hard work, thrift, fortitude, and other virtues; formal and informal organization of the local community; leadership with particular reference to officers of various organizations, their part and status in the community, and with regard to other leaders; and to various classes in the community.

Detailed interviews were held to learn about basic attitudes toward farming and the community, effects of commercialization and mechanization of farming, the impact of Government programs, and the influence of urbanization. The communities selected range from those with a high degree of stability, as evidenced over a long period of time (an Amish Community in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania), to those with a high degree

of instability (a community on the Great Plains). These studies will be of considerable value to the Extension Service and county planning activities, as well as other action programs, in that they provide detailed information regarding community organization and structure, and the deep-lying attitudes of rural people.

#### Study of Subsistence Homesteads Projects

At the request of the Farm Security Administration, 13 subsistence homesteads, including two forest communities, were studied by representatives of the Division who lived in those communities while collecting the necessary data. These communities were widely distributed over the country and represented various degrees of success. Information was collected concerning social, psychological, and economic factors in an attempt to explain why certain projects were more successful in giving their members added social and economic security. Individual reports were immediately made available to the Farm Security Administration and the Forest Service, and are now being used as a basis for future planning.

#### Decentralization of Industry

In cooperation with the Bureau of the Census a survey of trends in the location of industry and the tendency toward centralization or decentralization of industry, has been started with a view to showing how these trends affect the relations of agriculture and industry and the possibility of part time farming. Tabulations for a number of industries have been completed. Because of the implications of this study for national defense, it is expected that it will be expanded during the coming year.

#### Farm Labor and Tenancy

Projects completed during the year include: a study of the economic significance of variations in share renting and sharecropping areas as disclosed by investigations in selected areas in 9 of the Southern States; a study of bonus renting in the Southern States, on displacement of tenants and croppers and shifts in tenure status in the Southern States and on the division of Agricultural Adjustment payments; a report on the farm tenancy situation in two South Carolina counties as well as a report on farm labor and tenancy in 9 Arkansas cotton counties; a study of harvest labor in Kansas and North Dakota, designed to show the volume of the demand and local supply of harvest laborers in the Northern Great Plains, the duration of employment, living conditions, characteristics of the laborers and the extent of their migrations. A significant by-product of this last study was a table showing the number of these laborers who had Social Security account numbers, thus providing some information on the extent to which persons working in non-covered industries had at some time worked in covered industries. A comprehensive report summarizing available information concerning farm labor and the gaps in existing information on this topic is in preparation.



### Population Studies

At the request, and with the financial support, of the National Resources Planning Committee, a study of migration from the Northern Great Plains area was carried on. It has been possible to show that the pattern of population change in these areas during the 1930's was one of increase during the first few years of the decade, followed by an out-migration of such volume that there was a net loss for the entire 10 years. The population of these farm areas reached its peak in the early part of 1934, and there have been net losses since then. All of the areas surveyed experienced both an out-migration as well as an in-migration during the 1930's - the total number moving in and out being much greater than the net change as reported. Nearly three-fourths of the migrants out of the survey area went to some other place within the same State, but of those who moved out of the State, one-half went to the Pacific Coast States.

In other field studies of migration, major emphasis has been placed on studies of migrants to the Pacific Coast States - Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Arizona. Questionnaires were given to all school children who had come into these States before April 1939 (1940 in Arizona) and since 1930, and on the basis of these returns, studies showing the origin and present location of the migrants and some of their characteristics have been prepared. In addition field studies of settlers and their adjustments have been carried on. In the publications which have already resulted, it has been possible to show that migration into California during the 1930's was considerably less than during the 1920's, and that the volume of migration into the Pacific Northwest States during the 1930's was about the same as that during the 1920's. Most of the migrants into these States have secured employment and only a small proportion are receiving public assistance. The distribution of the migrants in these States, as between cities and the country, is about the same as that of the total population in 1930.

Another source of information concerning migrants is provided by the count of persons "in need of manual employment" moving into the State, made by the Bureau of Plant Quarantine which has inspectors at the points of entry into California. Current tabulations from this count are now being prepared and arrangements have been made with the authorities in Arizona for a similar count from which current tabulations also are being made. In addition, arrangements have been made with the California and Arizona Divisions of Vital Statistics to insert "length of residence in the State" on the birth and death certificates, and arrangements are being made for tabulations of these materials.

Annual estimates of farm population have been continued. They show that on January 1, 1940, there were 32,245,000 persons living on farms, which is close to the all-time high record of 1916. The 1940 estimate shows an increase of 186,000 over last year and brought the total increase of the last 10 years to 2,076,000. There has been an increase every year since 1930, with the exception of 1936 when there was a decrease of approximately 80,000 persons. Following the practice of

previous years, cooperative agreements have been developed with 12 Agricultural Experiment Stations for the purpose of making estimates of farm population and annual changes in farm population in those States and in connection with these agreements, a number of techniques for securing this information have been tested.

The opening up of new lands in the Mississippi-Delta area and the infiltration of people from the up-lands into these areas has created a number of problems. In connection with the Yazoo-Backwater area survey, field studies are being made to ascertain the volume of migration and the characteristics and adjustments of the migrants into lands now being converted from timber to agricultural uses. In cooperation with the State Agricultural Experiment Station in Louisiana, two field studies of migrants to these new land areas are under way.

### Rural Youth

Surveys of rural youth were begun primarily in response to requests from county planning committees, but there have also been other requests for assistance in this field of activity. The surveys that have been started include four major lines of inquiry: (a) The number, age, education, work experience, occupational preference, attitudes, capital accumulation, etc., of rural youth; (b) the openings on farms of the county during the last 5 years as hired man (or girl), tenant (including partnerships), owner, and estimates of such openings during the next two years; (c) the openings in nonagricultural employment in the county; and (d) the occupational and migration history of young people who have left the area in comparison with those who have remained there.

A major purpose in these studies is to provide the rural youth clubs, county planning committees, and other youth and farmers in the area with local facts about the rural youth and their opportunities as a basis for study of their problems and the solutions. These data can be provided as each step in a survey is completed, and in most instances the members of the youth clubs cooperate by collecting much of the information themselves.

### Levels of Living

An index of levels of living based on information that could be collected quickly and inexpensively over a wide area has been needed for some time. During the fiscal year 1939, work was begun on the construction of a level of living index based on the findings of more elaborate schedule studies which had already been completed. During last year this work has been resumed with new personnel. A careful study of the statistical methods involved has been made. Experimentation with correlation analysis as a means of determining weights to be assigned to the component factors of the index has been carried on largely with the use of census data. The results so far indicate that the correlation approach



to this problem is absolutely necessary in the development of a good index and that such an index should include the possession of material facilities, as well as subsistence farm resources like milk cows, hogs, chickens, home gardens, and orchards. As this work is also pointing the way toward a simplification of level of living schedules, new schedules have been designed and are now being tested in field studies. These new and simplified schedules are being adapted to use by county planning committees, as well as by homemakers' groups and other persons not technically trained.

### Other projects

In cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service and the National Park Service, studies to ascertain the nature and extent of the utilization of the recreational facilities of land purchase projects have been undertaken - one in Texas and one in Maine. In the latter study, it was found that rural people were not taking advantage of the facilities offered on the recreation sites and that many sections of the State were not benefiting from these projects.

In addition, many minor services have been rendered in response to requests from many sources. One of the regional offices reports among other things:

(a) Maps and population data were prepared in this Area office to fill a request made by the Division of Economic Information. (b) Sociological data have been prepared in the form of tables, maps, and charts for the use of the County Rural Rehabilitation Supervisors and Home Management Supervisors. (c) Copies of maps utilizing census data for the delimiting of social sub-regions have been made available to representatives of the Farm Security Administration and other government agencies. (d) Data on "population census" schedules pertaining to farm laborers were tabulated and made available. (e) For the Labor Relations Advisor for Farm Security Administration data were furnished pertaining to farm labor, farm employment and income from farm employment, and type-of-farm.

## RESEARCH REPORTS

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### Family Living<sup>1</sup>

"Standards of Living in Six Virginia Counties" (2) is the last of a series of six reports on levels-of-living studies, the field work of which was done in 1935. The principal index used was the total value of goods and services consumed for family-living purposes. Forty-six percent of the farm families and 44 percent of the urban families reported a total value of living for 1935 of less than \$1,000. The average value of all goods used by the 1,730 farm families in the study was \$1,130, 56 percent of which was purchased and 44 percent furnished by the farm. For the 761 town families this value was \$1,332, 86 percent of which was purchased. The farm owners reported an average of \$1,249; the renters, \$946; the croppers \$719. Urban families who owned their dwellings reported an average value of family living of \$1,558 while those residing in rented dwellings reported \$1,153.

In all residence and tenure groups the proportion of the total family budget allocated to food decreased as the total value of living increased and the proportion spent on maintenance and operation of the automobile, health, and advancement increased as the total value of living increased. A larger proportion of the urban families than of the farm families reported conveniences such as radios, telephones, and running water. The average amount of savings and investments was larger in the town families than in the rural families. The urban group devoted more time to leisure activities, including reading, than the rural group.

From 800 field interview records in 3 Oklahoma counties, "The Construction and Standardization of a Scale for the Measurement of the Socio-Economic Status of Oklahoma Farm Families" (47) has been completed. Chapin's definition of socio-economic status was "the position that an individual or family occupies with reference to the prevailing average standards of cultural possessions, effective income, material possessions, and participation in the group activities of the community."

The effectiveness of over 200 items in measuring these four components of socio-economic status was considered. On the basis of judgment all but 123 of these were discarded as ineffective. The method used in reducing the 123 items to the 36 retained in the standardized scale was the following:

(1) Each of the 800 schedules was scored by adding up the number of items listed which the family actually had. (2) The schedules were divided into four equal groups; the first quartile containing the 200 lowest scores, etc. (3) In each quartile group the percentage reporting the possession of each item was computed. For instance, the possession

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<sup>1</sup>Complete citations will be found in the bibliography, beginning on page 29.



of "separate living room" was reported in 5.5, 25.0, 48.0, and 82.5 percent of the schedules in quartiles 1, 2, 3, 4, respectively. (4) To determine the efficacy of each item in measuring socio-economic status, the percentage difference in the occurrence of each item between successive and extreme quartiles was calculated. (5) "This yielded four quartile percentage difference figures for each item in the experimental schedule, as follows: 1 and 2, 2 and 3, 3 and 4, and 1 and 4. When these percentages were high in relation to the standard error, the items were kept for inclusion in the final scale. (6) Items which were retained were weighted so that the more infrequent the occurrence of a given item among the 800 schedules, the larger the weight applied to it.

The author concludes that the scale was tested and "measures the socio-economic status of Oklahoma farm families and therefore may be considered a valid measuring instrument." The report includes summary appraisals of other previously constructed socio-economic scales.

#### Community Organization

"Kansas Rural Communities, A Study of Nemaha County" (4) represents work done at the request of and for the county and State land use planning committees. Previous to the delineation of the neighborhoods and communities the county agent and county planning committees were confronted with the necessity of working with a large number of arbitrarily determined areas they called communities. Delineation resulted in the reduction of the number of centers from 21 to 14, and whereas previously only about one-third of the people were reached in the 21 centers, by using the 14 communities it became possible to contact almost everyone.

These "functional" neighborhoods and communities to be used in the county planning process were delineated during a five-day period by personal interview with local leaders and officials and key families living in the various neighborhoods. The 14 communities which were delimited were described, as were the historical settlements of the German and Irish groups. The local school district was found in most cases to actually constitute the rural neighborhood.

"Forces Influencing Rural Life--A study of a Central Pennsylvania Community" (51) is based upon personal interviews with the 434 families. Data concerning population composition, social participation, education, suggestions for community improvement, and other facts were gathered. The area which later became the community was settled by Scotch-Irish and Germans from 1770-1875. It went through a period of rapid expansion and development from 1875 to 1910 but has since been on the decline. This decline has led to the emigration of the young people to find work, immigration of unemployed and unskilled, a decline in church and other participation, and the development of an attitude of "hopelessness."

A Michigan State College Bulletin, (40) "the first of a contemplated series dealing with local communities and conditions, is devoted to the determination of the boundaries of the natural areas surrounding the 35 or 40 towns and cities in the Lansing district and to a study of their reciprocal relationships."

The purposes of this study were: "(1) To determine Lansing's zone of influence as differentiated from that of Saginaw, Flint, Pontiac, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Jackson, Battle Creek, and Grand Rapids; (2) To discover, within this zone of influence, the constituent communities, and the center, boundary, size, and conformation of each, and the factors modifying those communities; (3) To evaluate the extent to which natural community lines coincide with the legal boundaries of counties and townships; (4) To note the change in agricultural, economic, and sociological factors with increasing distance from Lansing, using the township and concentric tiers of townships as units of study; (5) to compare those tendencies and trends around Lansing with those around Grand Rapids and Flint; and (6) To suggest some implications those facts may have for leaders engaged or interested in the problems of adjusting people to their environment and to the changing character of rural civilization."

High school, hardware, newspaper, banking, clothing, and R.F.D. service areas were mapped out by plotting data obtained from personal interviews and field schedules and composite service areas determined by superimposing one map upon another. It was found that the high school community tended to coincide more closely with the composite of the various basic services than did any other single service area.

A study of two new German settlements in Mecklenburg (87) describes the cooperatives, the social life, and economic activities of the families. The author lived and worked with the peasants to get farm management data from 9 families who were originally from the province of Württemberg. Although the Württemberger families, who were settled in a small "line" village or on isolated holdings, first objected to separation because they thought they preferred the closed villages to which they were accustomed, they later came to prefer being located nearer their land holdings. Electricity for the more scattered form of settlement would cost some 82 Reichs' Marks more for each holding than for the closed village settlement, but fire and bomb hazards were lessened where the isolated holdings prevailed.

After settlement, the Württembergers did not attend church so much as had been their custom before settlement. This is explained on the basis that the church services of the Swabians, many of whom had been laborers on the estates which were broken up for settlement, did not suit the newcomers. Also the Württembergers imitated the Swabians' practice of working on Sunday; a practice the latter followed to enable them to care for their own gardens when not working for the large estate holders.



### Culture and Cultural Areas

"Rural Regions of the United States," (32) is a Work Projects Administration publication which classifies the 3,070 counties of the United States into 32 general rural-farm regions and 218 rural-farm subregions. The same counties also were combined into 34 general rural regions which take into account the characteristics of the rural non-farm population. Three sets of sample counties to represent these regions are included.

The regions were delimited in such a way as to attain the maximum of homogeneity in each with respect to the following seven factors: "(1) A rural-farm plane-of-living index combining the average value of the farm dwelling, the percent of farms having automobiles, the percent of farm homes having electric lights, running water piped into the house, telephones, and radios in 1930; (2) A rural-farm population fertility index constructed by computing the ratio of children under 5 years of age to women 20-44 years of age, 1930; (3) Percent of farms producing less than \$1,000 gross income, 1929; (4) Percent of farm tenancy, 1935; (5) Land value per capita of the rural-farm population, 1930; (6) Percent of farm produce consumed on farms, 1929; (7) Percent of rural families residing on farms, 1930."

The factors of more localized importance were: "(1) Percent Negroes constituted of the total rural-farm population in the South, 1930; (2) Percent 'other races' constituted of the total rural-farm population in the Southwest, 1930; (3) Percent farm wage workers constituted of all agricultural workers in the West, 1930."

In addition, physiographic features were taken into account in places where these were prominent elements.

These factors were chosen after statistical analysis had demonstrated that each was highly related to a large number of other cultural factors and that they were not highly related one with another. It indicated that the plane-of-living index and the population fertility ratio were the "most pertinent" county indices used in the delimitation. Maps showing regions and subregions are included.

### Local Community Agencies and Facilities

"A Study of Churches of Culpeper County, Virginia," (3) was made at the request of the county planning committee because it recognized that planning on the community level called for active cooperation on the part of all people, organizations and institutions within the community. Facts about each church in the county were obtained by interviewing well-informed members.

Among the whites on each Sunday the total attendance at preaching services was equal to one-fourth of the population; the attendance at Sunday School was equal to one-seventh of the population of the county.

More than two-thirds of the churches have a pastor who serves at least three other churches. Of the six churches having a full time pastor, five are located in Culpeper Town.

Churches with services once a month or once every 2 months have the highest percentage of members attending church services (preaching and Sunday School), with the fewest organizations and activities. Churches with services twice a month have the next highest percentage of members attending church services, the greatest number of organizations and activities and the largest average membership. Attendance at church-sponsored activities averaged more than 3 times as large as the attendance at the preaching services.

A copy of the schedule used in recording the information is included in the appendix in the hope that it may be useful in similar surveys in other counties.

Twenty-two weekly newspapers considered representative of those of the State of Washington in 1938 were found to devote the largest portion of their space (41 percent) to advertising (63): news dissemination accounted for 32 percent, magazine material made up 21 percent of the total space, and 6 percent was devoted to editorial material. Between 1915-16 and 1937 the proportions of total space devoted to advertising and news decreased; magazine material increased greatly, and editorial material increased slightly. The combination of news and editorial material, representing the social function of the newspaper, indicates that the weeklies in the earlier period gave a larger proportion of their space (43 percent) to social material than they did in the later period (36 percent).

"The extent to which the weekly paper is a local organ is shown by the fact that somewhat over two-thirds of its advertising was local and three-fourths of its news was of town plus country origin, town news predominating. Papers published in towns of 1,000 or more population were found to contain considerably larger proportions of local material than were their contemporaries published in smaller centers."

"A Rural School Area in Central South Carolina," (52) is the second of a series of studies made of selected rural school areas in South Carolina. The purpose was to ascertain facts relative to the family, homes and schools of a rural community, with the hope of throwing some light on the economic and social conditions of the families, the conditions under which the schools operate, and the educational achievement of the children. Both the educational attainment of the pupils and the economic level of the families were found to be low, with 61 percent of the elementary pupils repeating one or more grades. The chief recommendations were consolidation and the substitution of educational for lay management.



"A Study of 4-H Local Leadership in South Carolina," (16) found the average tenure of 114 leaders in six counties to be 3.8 years. Sixty-two percent of the leaders were teachers - sixty-eight percent of all leaders had schooling beyond high school and 84 percent were graduated from high school. Eighty-two percent were reared on a farm; 45 percent received training in agriculture or home economics in high school or college; 38 percent had themselves been 4-H members. The median age was 32 years.

"Public Health Facilities," (54) available to families in South Dakota are discussed in an Experiment Station bulletin, which also discusses death rates and causes of death, and includes graphic descriptions of location and availability of various types of county health services, hospitals, physicians, dentists, pharmacists, and utilization of these. The increasing importance of public and group health facilities is emphasized.

#### Population Migration

"The People of Dolores County, Colorado," (5) are extremely mobile. A study conducted cooperatively by school officials and the Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare, based upon complete enumeration made in 1939, for the most part by local citizens, indicated that over half of the people present in the county in 1939 had moved there during or since 1930, and from one-half to two-thirds of the people present in 1930, had either died or moved out by 1939. These movements have increased the proportion of young people in the population and decreased the proportion of aged persons and males of working age. Annual school census data indicate similar trends and substantiate the conclusion that forecasting of future school enrollment without knowledge of in and out migrations is difficult.

"Migrants, A National Problem and Its Impact on California," (36) a California Chamber of Commerce Report based upon many studies, states that "over the past ten years, net migration into this State, that is, arrivals less departures, has been more than 1,200,000 persons, according to best available estimates. More than 75 percent of these, or 850,000, have arrived in the last five years, since January, 1935. A majority of them have been in the younger working age group. At least half of them represent additions to the potentially employable labor force."

As factors causing migration in the States of origin, the committee discusses: High birth rates and surplus population; drought, soil erosion and agricultural depression; mechanization and agricultural readjustment; inadequate local relief and welfare aids in the home States; and increased mobility of population. The committee recommends that the migration be reduced by extending Federal relief programs in States of origin, removing "glaring" inequalities in local relief aids, integrating programs of Federal and State agencies, issuing warnings as to lack of jobs in California, and urging Arizona to stop recruiting in States of origin.

Under the title, "The Theory and Consequences of Mobility of Farm Population." (48) causes, types, volume, and consequences of movements of people are discussed. The recent western migrations are discussed and studies cited to prove the fallacy of the prevalent notion that emigres from Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas were exclusively from dust bowl counties.

According to an Arkansas Experiment Station bulletin, (34) "the population process from 1930 to 1935 was in the direction of maladjustment rather than adjustment," because farm population increase and congestion was greatest in those areas which were already overpopulated and where the farm base was poorest. From 1920 to 1930, on the other hand, the overcrowded upland areas sent population to areas of greater opportunity in Arkansas and other States. Indices of population pressure based upon productive area, wealth, and income as related to population are presented by the author.

"Rural Population Density in the Southern Appalachians," (11) has been graphically described on a map so that account is taken of "changes in the natural environment and changes in the population density itself, as far as they can be discerned from the evidence furnished by the source material and can be expressed within the limitations imposed by the scale of the map." The region was broken into 2,435 tracts each averaging 45 square miles. Area of minor civil divisions was calculated from maps, population numbers were furnished by minor civil divisions from census reports. In the map, 11 gradient colors were used to indicate density per square mile. Boundaries of color areas were determined by both physiographic and cultural factors. Thus the older form of map on which population density is indicated by dots, each indicating a number of people, or progressive shading of political divisions corresponding to a graduated scale of average groups, is supplanted by a new cartographic feature which allows for a more realistic portrayal of density within areas not bounded by political lines.

In the summary the author states that "there are areas which may be considered as conforming to the premises that the greater adaptability of the land to farming is responsible for the denser population, or conversely, that because the land is poorly adapted to farming the population is sparse. But the exceptions are too many to establish such a relationship as the prevailing rule."

### Rural Youth

A statement concerning "Child Labor in Agriculture" (24) was submitted by the Industrial Division of the Children's Bureau to a submitttee of the Committee on Education and Labor of the United States Senate. In this report are included discussions of the extent of child labor in



agriculture, the conditions under which children employed in agriculture must work and live, lack of educational opportunities, and the attempts at legal regulation of agricultural child labor by State and Federal governments.

The National Child Labor Committee has published the third in its series of studies of migratory children. (68) This bulletin presents a discussion of strawberry migrants of the mid-section of the Mississippi Valley, whose increasing numbers are attributed to the disintegration of the tenancy system in southern cotton culture. One of the most striking aspects of the problem is the influence of migratory life upon the education of the children. "Thirty-six percent of the migrant children of school age had not attended school a single day in the calendar year preceding the study. The average number of weeks attended by those who had gone to school was 17.2, or a matter of 86 days."

Pennsylvania State College has published a study of 54 young men, former students of vocational agriculture, who left high school before graduation and were farming at the time of the study. (50) It was found that these boys had relatively low I.Q.'s and were retarded in school. "A comparatively large number reject farming as an occupation and try other ways of earning their living, but eventually they gravitate back, generally to the rural community where they were reared and gained their early farm experience." Recommendations for helping this type of boy to make his vocational adjustment are presented.

### Rehabilitation

A summary analysis of "Rural Rehabilitation Progress in Stearns County, Minnesota", (22) emphasizes the importance of the human factor in rehabilitation. Officials too frequently fail to consider personal or family peculiarities in devising farm and home plans. More emphasis should be placed upon long time rehabilitation than immediate cash income.

The report says that "only those who have real possibilities of complete and permanent rehabilitation can be expected to repay their loans. Other less able families may deserve other types of public assistance but to include them in the rehabilitation program may deprive those who are more capable from participation. Young, ambitious, cooperative farmers constitute the most desirable rehabilitation materials." Recommendations are based upon analysis of use of borrowed funds, progress of clients, and other data from rehabilitation records.

## EXTENSION REPORTS

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Rural Sociology Extension work in Illinois during 1939-40 has given chief attention to four major phases: (1) organization and program planning for the rural community; (2) organization and program planning for cultural activities in music, drama and recreation; (3) discussion leader training; and (4) intergroup relationships.

Eighty-nine of the 102 counties in Illinois have from 1 to 26 organized community units and groups through which the extension program is carried to the farm people. Each of these groups contacts from 25 to 250 persons through their programs and activities. In counties with few or no cooperating groups, special community and project meetings are called by farm advisers, home advisers, or local leaders. Through these methods approximately one-third of the farm families of the State have been reached.

Ten years of experimentation in community organization in Illinois have demonstrated the value of such organized groups in carrying the extension program to farm people. These meetings not only provide for the teaching and discussion of improved farm and home practices but also give attention to social, cultural, recreational, and civic matters.

Local groups call upon county leaders for assistance in a wide range of activities. Demands for help in the development of cultural activities -- music, drama, recreations and art -- come increasingly from all kinds of rural groups. Because of the need for training discussion leaders, special emphasis will be given to this work in the fall conferences. Promotion of better cooperation and understanding between groups in rural communities requires the constant effort of extension workers.

Coordination of organizations and agencies will be sought through (1) State, district, and county conferences and (2) town - country community conferences. Church and educational agencies in the State will cooperate with extension workers in planning and conducting the programs for these conferences.

Training schools and seminars will be provided for officers and leaders of local groups - for young people as well as adults. Lectures and discussions supplemented by charts, lantern slides and film strips will show the results of studies in rural sociology and will help to interpret social trends. "The Community Leader," sent every 2 months to those who request it, contains information and help in program planning.

In furthering the aim of the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics, Rural Sociology Extension seeks to aid: (1) in developing effective rural organization; (2) in discovering, developing, training and guiding local leadership in rural communities; (3) in developing



rural talent through participation in and appreciation of cultural activities and in improving the quality of rural living; (4) in developing in rural leaders the realization of the interdependence of community groups and the need for cooperation among them and (5) in developing an open-minded and cooperative rural citizenship.

Progress toward these objectives will be measured (1) by the number of people contacted directly through various types of conferences, schools and institutes; (2) by the number of groups carrying on activities as indicated by farm and home advisers' reports; and (3) through research studies in rural sociology which are planned in part to measure the effects of the work in Rural Sociology Extension.

#### NOTES

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##### Division Notes

During recent weeks some members of the Division joined with other personnel of the Bureau in testifying before two Congressional committees.

At the hearings before the Temporary National Economic Committee, Carl C. Taylor, W. T. Ham and E. J. Holcomb presented data on opportunities for employment in agriculture, unemployment on farms and the status of farm laborers and tenants.

Mechanization in agriculture in various areas of the nation and its relation to efficiency in production and to farm income was described by Sherman E. Johnson, R. S. Kifer and Louis H. Bean. The effect of mechanization on farm labor was presented by these witnesses before the Civil Liberties Committee.

Before the Civil Liberties Committee, Carl C. Taylor pointed out the rural problem areas and offered suggestions for helping distressed farm families. He said: "There are more than one-half million farms in the United States located on land so poor that it is impossible for the families living on the land to make a living by farming it, no matter how hard they try."

Rural conservation and rehousing programs to give employment to needy farm people were offered by Raymond C. Smith as a possible solution to the problem of farm unemployment and underemployment.

Conrad Taeuber described the movement of rural people, giving reasons for the present increase in farm population which is estimated today at 32,250,000 or about 2,000,000 more than it was in 1930.

Charts on numbers, distribution, composition and unemployment status of the farm labor group in the United States were explained by W. T. Ham and J. C. Folsom. Owners and tenants (including share croppers)

made up 57.4 percent of the total working population on the farms of the United States in 1930, unpaid family workers 15.7 percent, wage workers 26 percent. From 1930 to 1935 the proportion of hired workers increased. Mr. Folsom also gave information concerning farm labor strikes.

E. J. Holcomb told of conditions of sharecroppers and wage laborers in cotton areas and reported on the income of farm laborers in various regions. He estimated that the total number of workers of sharecropper families and hired laborers in the eight cotton states in 1935 would represent approximately 20 percent of all persons employed in agriculture in the United States during that year.

The farm labor situation in Texas was described by W. C. Holley. He said that within recent years the farm labor problem has been greatly intensified by the rapid increase of the migratory labor population and that grave social problems - especially those of health, sanitation and housing - have resulted in areas where labor concentrates.

Donald G. Hay described labor conditions in the wheat harvest area of North Dakota.

Labor problems in Louisiana, particularly in the cane sugar industry and in the cut-over area among rehabilitated groups, were presented by Harold Hoffsommer.

C. Horace Hamilton showed that farm laborers, as a group, have a standard of living far below that of other occupational classes in America. This is due largely to their low income which is not sufficient for a decent standard of living.

Carl C. Taylor also joined with H. R. Tolley, R. C. Smith and M. L. Wilson in presenting proposed solutions to problems of the disadvantaged classes in American agriculture.

Davis McEntire, regional representative of the Division on the Pacific Coast, will attend Harvard University this fall on a Littauer Fellowship.

Olen Leonard now engaged in a field study for the Division will do graduate work at the University of Louisiana this fall.

John B. Holt, regional representative in the Atlanta office of the Division will become Associate Professor of Rural Sociology at the University of Maryland this fall.

#### Federal Notes

"County Land Use Planning" (12) is No. 1 in a series of Bureau of Agricultural Economics circulars written to describe and give the background



for the county planning movement. The bulletin ends with the statement: "Having farmers participate in planning means a lot of work, and some people are asking why the Department of Agriculture or the State colleges, for instance, should not send technicians into a county, make the surveys, figure out scientifically what the county's plans ought to be and then just announce the results.

"The reasons are plain: In the first place, the 'hand-me-down' idea of doing things is not the way of a democracy; and, in the second, this is simply not a job for technicians alone. It is one for the joint concern of farmers, technicians and program administrators. And the key to success in the entire task is to obtain the benefit of local support and participation in planning agricultural programs and goals."

Other circulars in this series are: "Memberships of Land Use Planning Committees," No. 2; and "The Land Use Planning Organization"; No. 3.

"Farm Tenancy in the United States, 1937-1939" (8) is a supplement to Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 70, "Farm Tenancy in the United States, 1918-1936," published in June 1937. The present bibliography contains references to books, pamphlets and periodical articles on farm tenancy, leases and leasing systems and the southern sharecropping systems published during the period 1937-1939. It also includes references to a few publications issued in 1940 and to a few issued in 1935 and 1936 which were not included in the earlier bibliography.

The bibliography is in three main sections: general references relating to the United States as a whole; references arranged by geographical divisions; and references arranged by States and territorial possessions. An author and subject index is appended.

The Bureau of Home Economics in cooperation with the National Resources Committee, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the WPA has completed a study of consumer purchases (19) inaugurated in 1936. This study was undertaken to provide data more comprehensive than any before available on the way in which American families on farms, in villages, and in cities of different sizes earn and spend their incomes. To obtain a picture of family consumption patterns by income levels for the most important groups of this country it was necessary to carry out an investigation simultaneously in several regions and in communities of various degrees of urbanization.

Publications resulting from these studies already published are: (1) "Family income and expenditures," Pacific region, urban and village series, misc. publ. No. 339; (2) "Family income and expenditures," Plains and Mountain region, urban and village series, misc. publ. No. 345; (3) "Family income and expenditures," Pacific region and Plains and Mountain region, farm series, misc. publ. No. 356. Other reports are still in progress.

Among the special reports recently issued by the Bureau of the Census are No. 36, "International Vital Statistics" and No. 59, "Births and Deaths by Place of Occurrence and Place of Residence, 1938." The report on International Vital Statistics includes statistics of population; births and fertility; mortality by cause, age and sex; marriage and divorce; legitimacy of births; and migration for 52 countries. Trends since 1920 and detailed statistics for recent years are shown.

### State Notes

County Program Planning activities have been inaugurated in 10 counties in Arkansas. In Yell County an intensive study is being made of population trends, community development, social participation, and effectiveness of social agencies. From a study of their activities and membership each organization will be rated on efficiency, the number of people it reaches, and the improvements that can be made. The organizational structure is compared with the population base so that it will be possible to determine just which people are unaffected by community agencies.

Community organization for land use planning is a major research interest in Rural Sociology at the University of Kentucky at the present time. The communities and neighborhoods of Garrard County have been delireated in a study of county organization and local participation in the planning process. Community committee members have been interviewed in Garrard, Hopkins and Grant Counties and an equal number of non-committee families drawn at random have been interviewed with reference to their occupational and residential mobility, their household and family composition, their social participation, their attitudes concerning education, problems of land use and agricultural programs, etc. These attitudes will be studied in relationship to the successful functioning of community committees and the degree of activity and interest of individual committee members.

The planning committee of Washington County, Rhode Island in cooperation with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare is investigating the extent and prevalence of land use that is not commercial agriculture; such as part-time and subsistence farming and recreational areas.

The fourth Institute for Town and Country Pastors, sponsored by the Division of Rural Sociology at Washington State College, convened from July 8 to 19. Courses in the Institute were given in the fields of agricultural economics, perscnality and social adjustment, rural sociology, and rural church leadership.

"Rural Community Living" was the subject of the 8th Annual Wisconsin Rural Organization Leaders Conference. The rural community was considered from



five points of view - education, recreation, social welfare, health, and spiritual values. The central problem was that of correlating and integrating public agencies and private organizations. Ninety-four delegates representing 46 different Wisconsin organizations and agencies attended the conference.

The Extension Service in Wisconsin cooperated with the Recreational Leaders Laboratory in conducting recently the third laboratory which was attended by 94 people from Wisconsin and 7 from outside the State. This year the major emphasis was given to cultural music.

B. O. Williams, who has been professor of rural sociology at Clemson Agricultural College in South Carolina, has been appointed as head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Georgia, effective in September.

#### Other Notes

Eight lists of references on the literature of rural life have been compiled for publication in Rural America, the organ of American Country Life Association. These lists contain references to recent books, pamphlets, and periodical articles on rural life subjects selected by the different members of the committee, supplemented by reviews.

The proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Agriculture (86) held in Germany, 1939, have been published in nine sections consisting of as many separate bulletins. Of these, three are of particular interest to rural sociologists. Section 2, "Agricultural Instruction and Propaganda" includes reports on the following topics by Germans, a Belgian, and an Italian: New Methods and Results of Agricultural Training and Instruction; Development, Progress and Importance of the System of Giving Advice on Agricultural Matters; Object Lessons and Demonstrations in Agricultural Schools; and Broadcasting and Films in the Service of Agriculture.

Section 3, "Agricultural Cooperative Societies," includes three topics entitled: The Tasks of the Agricultural Cooperative Societies in the Economic Policy of the State; The Cooperative Societies for Agricultural Production; and the Processing of Fruit and Vegetables by Cooperative Societies, which were written by Finnish, Jugoslavian and Bulgarian representatives.

Section 8, "Rural Life and the Work of the Countrywoman," includes the following topics: Relation between Economic and Hygienic Position of the Rural Population; Means and Measures to Lighten the Countrywoman's Work; Peasant Culture and its Importance in the Life of Nations; and Practical Measures of Different Countries to Encourage Peasant Culture and Peasant Traditions, which were written by English, German, Belgium and Swiss scholars.

The Brookings Institution is conducting a study of relief in the United States, giving attention to the economic, social, and administrative aspects of the problem. For working purposes the investigational activities are divided into two broad parts. The work at the national level is being done by members of the staff of the Institution at its office in Washington and will cover the available material for the country as a whole. Work at the local operating level is being carried on in selected rural and urban areas by local cooperating groups in 15 States. The cooperating groups have previously done a great deal of research and all but one are connected with universities. The general purpose of the local studies is to learn how the various programs that make up the relief structure are actually working out in the areas studied. Upon completion of the local projects next fall they will be used as original working material for the broader analysis at Brookings. The project is largely financed by a grant from the Falk Foundation of Pittsburgh. It is being carried out under the general direction of Lewis Meriam, assisted by Meyer Jacobstein and Melvin W. Sneed.

Recent changes in personnel include the following:

P. B. Boyer having completed his research at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College will do graduate work at Louisiana State University; Robert T. McMillan resumed his duties with the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station on July 1, after two years of graduate study at Louisiana State University; Alvin Bertrand, graduate of Louisiana State University, will do graduate work at the University of Kentucky; Merton Oyler will return to the University of Kentucky in September after completing a year of graduate work at the University of Chicago; E. H. Regnier, Associate in Rural Sociology Extension at the University of Illinois, is going to Cornell on sabbatical leave - G. T. Hudson will take his place; Eugene Mosbacher of Illinois and Glenn Vergeront now at Montana have accepted research assistantships at the University of Illinois.



LIST OF PUBLICATIONS  
Reviewed and Received

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- (1) "Personnel in Rural Sociology: Teachers, Research Workers, Extension Workers," Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D.C., Oct. 1, 1939, 22 pp.
- (2) "Standards of Living in Six Virginia Counties," by Dwight M. Davidson Jr. and B. L. Hummel, Soc. Res. Report No. XV, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Mar. 1940, 116 pp.
- (3) "A Study of Churches of Culpeper County, Virginia," by Douglas Ensminger and John S. Page, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., July 1940, 23 pp.
- (4) "Kansas Rural Communities, A Study of Nemaha County," Bur. of Agr. Econ. in Cooperation with the Kan. Agr. Exp. Sta., Amarillo, Texas, June 1940, 30 pp.
- (5) "The People of Dolores County, Colorado," Bur. of Agr. Econ. in Cooperation with the Col. Agr. Exp. Sta., Amarillo, Texas, Mar. 1940, 22 pp.
- (6) "The World Food Supply," compiled by Margaret T. Olcott, Agr. Econ. Bibliog. No. 82, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Dec. 1939, 164pp.
- (7) "Land Classification," compiled by Orval E. Goodsell, Agr. Econ. Bibliog. No. 83, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Mar. 1940, 95 pp.
- (8) "Farm Tenancy in the United States, 1937-1939," by John M. McNeil, Agr. Econ. Bibliog. No. 85, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., April 1940, 163 pp.
- (9) "Cotton Picking Machinery; A Short List of References," by Emily L. Day, Economic Library list No. 9, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Mar. 1940, 19 pp.
- (10) "Digest of Outstanding Federal and State Legislation Affecting Rural Land Use," Bul. 56, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., June 15, 1940, 27 pp.
- (11) "Rural Population Density in the Southern Appalachians," by Francis J. Marschner, Misc. Pub. No. 367, Bur. of Agr. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Mar. 1940, 18 pp.
- (12) "County Land Use Planning, County Planning Series No. 1," U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 1940, 12 pp.
- (13) "Balanced Agriculture in a Democracy," by J. W. Bateman, Ext. Serv. Circ. 320, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 9 pp.

(14) "The Farm Family in a Democracy," by Reuben Brigham, Ext. Serv. Circ. 321, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 8 pp.

(15) "Opportunity Knocks at our Door," by Reuben Brigham, Ext. Serv. Circ. 322, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 12 pp.

(16) "A Study of 4-H Local Leadership in South Carolina," by Leon O. Clayton, Ext. Serv. Circ. 325, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Mar. 1940, 28 pp.

(17) "Cultural Approach in Extension Work," by M. L. Wilson, Ext. Serv. Circ. 332, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., May 1940, 12 pp.

(18) "Federal Publications of Interest to Home Economics Workers," A Partial List of References, by Edith Allen, Misc. Ext. Pub. 49, Ext. Service, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Feb. 1940, 7 pp.

(19) "Family Income and Expenditures, Pacific Region, Plains and Mountain Region," Part I, Family Income, Misc. Pub. No. 356, Bur. of Home Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 1939, 276 pp.

(20) "List of Bulletins of the Agricultural Experiment Stations for the Calendar Years 1937 and 1938," by Catherine E. Pennington, Misc. Pub. 362, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 1940, 91 pp.

(21) "Farmer Co-ops in Kentucky," by W. J. Maddox, Farm Credit Adm., Cooperative Div., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 1939, 16 pp.

(22) "Rural Rehabilitation Progress in Stearns County, Minnesota," by Warren R. Bailey, Farm Management reports No. 3, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Mar. 1940, 31 pp.

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(24) "Child Labor in Agriculture," Statement of Beatrice McConnell, Children's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C., May 1940, 66 pp.

(25) "The Health Situation of Negro Mothers and Babies in the United States," by Elizabeth C. Tandy, Children's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C., July 1940, 9 pp.

(26) "Families in the United States by Type and Size," Bur. of the Census, U. S. Dept. of Comm., Washington, D. C., May 17, 1940, 16 pp.

(27) "Vital Statistics--Special Reports," Vol. 9.  
"International Vital Statistics" No. 36, May 2, 1940, pp. 345-461.  
"Births and Deaths by Place of Occurrence and Place of Residence: 1938" No. 59, July 8, 1940, pp. 761-818. Bur. of the Census, U. S. Dept. of Comm., Washington, D. C.



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(32) "Rural Regions of the United States" by A. R. Mangus, WPA Special Report, Washington, D. C., 1940, 230 pp.

(33) "Reemployment Opportunities and Recent Changes in Industrial Techniques," by Daniel Creamer and Charles W. Coulter, Report No. L-5, National Research Project, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., 1939, 342 pp.

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(34) "Population Trends and Adjustments in Arkansas," by William H. Metzler, Bul. 388, Ark. Agr. Exp. Sta., Fayetteville, May 1940, 59 pp.

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(36) "Migrants, A National Problem--and its Impact on California," California State Chamber of Commerce, California, May 1940, 51 pp.

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(37) "Outdoor Meals," Illinois College of Agr. Extension Service, Feb. 1939, 22 pp.

#### Kansas

(38) "Health for Farm Families," by W. Pearl Martin, Bul. 54, Kansas State College of Agr., Manhattan, Nov. 1939, 52 pp.

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(40) "The Lansing Region and its Tributary Town-Country Communities," by J. F. Thaden, Special Bul. 302, Mich. Agr. Exp. Sta., East Lansing, Mar. 1940, 50 pp.

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(41) "Minnesota Farmers' Diaries--William R. Brown, 1845-46, Mitchell Y. Jackson, 1852-63," introduction and notes by Rodeny C. Loehr, The Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, 1939, 247 pp.

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(48) "The Theory and Consequences of Mobility of Farm Population," by O.D. Duncan, Cir. 88, Okla. Agr. Exp. Sta., Stillwater, May 1940, 22 pp.



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(50) "Out-of-school Rural Youth Enter Farming," by C. S. Anderson, Bul. 385, Pa. Agr. Exp. Sta., State College, Jan. 1940, 26 pp.

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(57) "Proceedings of the Tenth Educational Conference for Negroes in Texas," Prairie View, Tex. Bul. V. 31, No. 1, Prairie View College Press, Nov. 1939, 93 pp.

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(58) "Clothing Consumption of 299 Village and 551 Farm Families in Vermont," by M. E. Tiffany, Bul. 451, Vermont Agr. Exp. Sta., Burlington, 1939, 48 pp.

(59) "Food from the Sea," by Lydia Tarrant, Brieflet 541, Vermont College of Agr., Burlington, Dec. 1939, 10 pp.

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(62) "The Virginia Rural Youth Survey," by William E. Garnett and Allen D. Edwards, Rural Soc. Report No. 13, Va. Agr. Exp. Sta., Blacksburg, and Va. WPA, May. 1940, 12 pp.

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(70) "How to Economize on Dairy Products," Homestead Bulletin No. 12, The School of Living, Suffern, N. Y., April 1940, 16pp.

(71) "Run Of the Stars," by Lora Aydelotte, D. Appleton-Century Co., New York, 1940, 340 pp.



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- (74) "The Trees" by Conrad Richter, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1940, 302 pp.
- (75) "New England Year: A Journal of Vermont Farm Life," by Muriel Follett, Stephen Daye Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1940, 222 pp.
- (76) "The Place Which Agricultural Economics Should Occupy in a Program of Development for the South," Proceedings of the Conference on Agricultural Economics, Lookout Mountain Hotel, June 8-13, 1939, Chattanooga, Tenn., 1939, 69 pp.
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- (79) "Rural Roads to Security: America's Third Struggle for Freedom," by Luigi Ligutti and John C. Rawe, Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, 1940, 387 pp.
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- (81) "Indians and the Land," First Inter-American Conference on Indian Life, Patzcuaro, Mexico, April 1940, 75 pp.
- (82) "Report on Rural Relief Due to Drought Conditions and Crop Failures in Western Canada, 1930-37," by E. W. Stapleford. Published by authority of the Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, 1939, 130 pp.
- (83) "The People's Year Book 1940," by The Publicity Department Cooperative Wholesale Society. Cooperative Wholesale Society's Printing Works, Reddish, Stockport, England, 300 pp.
- (84) "Farm Labour in the Orange Free State; Report of an Investigation Undertaken Under the Auspices of the South African Institute of Race Relations," Monograph Series No. 2, Johannesburg, South Africa, April 1939, 46 pp.

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